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march 30th, 2000 flying without right wing common sense" for 52 years volume 52 issue 29

Photo: Tim Harvey

Students on campus revolted Monday against the *sMartlet*: "UVic's communist-facist rag"

FREE THE STRAIGHT WHITE MALE
DID SOMEBODY SAY "KILL"
GREEN IS THE COLOUR OF SNOT
FUCK WOMYNS RIGHTS!
CLEAR CUT FOR THE FUTURE
MEAT EATER UNITE
PETS or MEAT
FUCK ART LET'S KILL

Protesters take a stand by burning a copy of *the sMartlet*, a paper they call "socialist bullshit."

sMartlet photos (on bottom half) by Sutton Eaves

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Students protest oppressive rag

BY SALVADOR GLEZOS

After months of tyranny and oppression, the students of the University of Victoria finally rose up against the communist-fascist rag known as *the sMartlet* and said "No more!"

On Monday, March 27 at 9 a.m., the students of UVic, enraged by issue after issue of anarchist-authoritarian propaganda masquerading as journalism, established a protest in front of *the sMartlet* offices in the Student Union Building. The students shouted cries of "traitors" and "fascists" demanding that *the sMartlet* return the hundreds of thousands of dollars in student fees they've stolen from the students over the years.

"For too long have the students of this university laboured under the yolk of oppression," said UVic student Gerald Limbaugh. "We are finally rising up against the pinko propaganda that is being spewed from this fascists regime. It wouldn't be so bad if we, the average student, could have our say in how it's run. But instead this group of psychos runs it like it's there own personal soapbox."

Early on during the protests, several s*Martlet* staff members attempted to leave the building, but they were quickly beaten back in. No major injuries were incurred with the sole exception of an unidentified man in a black trench coat who received multiple head wounds before scurrying back in through an open window.

Around noon, after a quick break for a snack at the Munchie Bar, the students burned an effigy of s*Martlet* editor-in-chief Pat Egan on top of a pile of newspapers with the infamous "Millennium" cover, shouting "Burn, nutbar, burn!"

"We've allowed this smut to corrupt our youth and poison our minds for too long," said third-year humanities student Sandra Manning. "We demand that the university revoke society status from this group of perverts and freaks. They advocate deviant sexual behaviours and down right un-Canadian activities. Down with *the sMartlet*!"

Two of the many students who staged a protest outside the Student Union Building on Monday.

sMartlet photo by Sutton Eaves

Finally, at around 3 p.m., as tempers flared and anger reached a fevered pitch, the protesters, now numbering in the thousands, stormed the offices, ransacking and pillaging.

Printer's ink flowed like blood and computer equipment was thrashed to within an inch of its life. *The sMartlet* staff, which narrowly escaped by hiding in the International Socialists' office, were unable to be reached for comment.

"This is a great day for the students," said Manning. "Finally we're free."

The crowd then left to go read the *National Post*.

Chairperson stages bloody coup d'etat

BY SIMONE GLEE

In a surprising turn in campus politics, current Society of UVic Students (SUVS) chairperson Morag Stalwart recently declared himself "all-powerful dictator for life."

The military-backed consolidation of power took place during a March 20 board of directors meeting. The board had just finished voting 11-3 in favour of purchasing a new photocopier for Zap, the Student Union Building's (SUB) printing service, when Stalwart, accompanied by a team of guerillas, paid for by embezzled student society fees, took control of the meeting.

Stalwart, decked out in army fatigues and a bright red sash and reading *Commandante*, brought forth a motion that he be made the student society's dictator-for-life.

Motioning at the table with a Russian bought AK-47, Stalwart opened the floor for discussion. The debate centred on the constitutionality of Stalwart's motion, as many directors questioned whether or not they would have to convene an Annual General Meeting to pass the motion.

However, spurred on by Stalwart's crack team of commando assassins, many board members agreed that this action was within their purview. The board voted 13-0 in favour, with one abstention, who was then shot.

"I think this is a good thing for the SUVS," said a notably flustered Kerry Warship. "And I'm not just saying that because of the gun-toting mercenary standing behind me."

The rest of the meeting proceeded without incident, with the exception of the death of one gallery member who was shot for violating Robert's Rules of Order.

Other bills passed at the meeting included a motion to send a letter of protest to the Safeway corporation for selling genetically modified foods, a decision to increase the selection of pizza offered in the SUB, and the requirement that all students now refer to Stalwart as, 'El Presidente,' 'De Fuhrer' or 'M'lord.'

In an exclusive interview given by Stalwart from his combat bunker deep beneath the SUB, he said he was enthusiastic about these new changes.

"I think this is a great day for the SUVS and for the UVic campus in general. We've been given a clear mandate, to rule the students with an iron fist, and that is what we shall attempt to do."

Though Stalwart has so far been cautious in his actions as dictator for life, he has recently re-acquired SUVS control over *the sMartlet*, as is his right as our benevolent king and leader. All hail Morag Stalwart.

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Hare removal remedy angers students

BY WATERSHIP DOWN

The Board of Directors of the Society of UVic Students (SUVS) has agreed to grant club status and funding to the Bunny Equalization Response Posse (BERP), an on-campus organization devoted to hunting, trapping and eating UVic bunnies.

Pro-life group Youth Projecting Propaganda (YPP), denied the same club status earlier in the term, calls the SUVS decision "unfair."

"It's a total double standard," said YPP spokesperson Porter Naysayer. "If we wanted SUVS funding to get students hunting bunnies, they'd just say we were taking away bunnies' rights to choose."

However, BERP says they are not amateurs and believe they have a right to the funding.

"It's not like we just pick out random bunnies and drop 'em with a B.B. gun," said BERP's Melvin de Latoya Weinberg.

"We actually study the bunnies' behavioural habits, observe their hierarchy and then we create traps and unique ways of sacrificing those specimens we notice to be worthy of our human consumption."

The SUVS decision to grant BERP funding and status was not arrived at hastily. After confirming that UVic Facilities Management already controls the bunny population, the SUVS board of directors met to discuss the legitimacy of what BERP is trying to do.

The SUVS decision relied on a written promise from the self-acknowledged "modern hunter-gatherers" to maintain the existing SUVS policy of controlling the bare minimum number of bunnies. The SUVS said funds will go towards subsidizing traps, nets and exotic sauces.

"The SUVS supports alternatives to mainstream nutrition culture like Amaranth, the Ancient Grains Vegan Tabouli Collective and Food Not Telereg," said SUVS Chairperson Morag Stalwart. "BERP is playing by the rules, so we feel that students can benefit from a well-rounded bunny population... and it's not like anyone will really notice."

Members of the UVic Sustaining Something Project said this is an innovative way to stave off the traditional starving student hunger pangs in a sustainable fashion.

"Hey, I like the bunnies too," said one BERP member who chose to remain nameless. "Just because I want to track one, hide in a tree with a spear, jump down, tickle the bunny, plunge the spear into its abdomen and then feast on the dead rabbit with my fellow BERP members, does that make me a bad person?"

YPP member Rhoda Claptrap has been active against BERP, uniting other campus groups that have been denied SUVS club status and funding, including Students for a Free Chevette, the Nudist Tree-Climbing Club and International Gluttons of Gaia, also known as "The Gobblies."

BERP has also encountered opposition from other UVic organizations who are just plain hungry. Constance Wheatgrass-Cilantro, president of the Soy to the World Foodshare Collective, has been extremely vocal.

"If there's bunny to eat, why can't everybody have some?"

A BERPosse member celebrates their new club status
smartlet photo by Kristin Frozenman

Communism's great!!

BY VLADIMIR ILLYICH GLEZOS

In a recent study commissioned by *the sMartlet* newspaper offices, unbiased and objective resear-chers discovered what right-thinking people have known for decades: Communism is fantastic.

The study, entitled "Why Anyone Who Disagrees with Karl Marx is an Idiot," was commissioned by *the sMartlet*'s Ministry of Propaganda as part of their ongoing "cultural re-education" project. The report was started over two years ago, and was released at the March 25 weekly politburo meeting.

"Through exhaustive documentation and scientific research, this report has uncovered what should have been obvious in the first place: Marx was a great guy," said s*Martlet* volunteer Jeff Trotsky, one of the study's authors. "It's clear that his views on society and the economy are really the only ones that are valid."

Trotsky later added, "Anyone who disagrees with Marx should probably be shot on sight."

The study detailed some of the most important aspects of Marxist political philosophy, such as the fact that people shouldn't have to work for a living, rich people are evil and the government should look after everyone.

The report, which began as a way of informing campus bourgeoisie pigs about the realities of class warfare, was well received by the campus. In an unbiased and scientific survey, over 98 per cent of students (polled at an International Socialists meeting) agreed that the report was dead on in its analysis.

"It's nice to finally see some accurate, unbiased reporting on campus," said second year Political Science student Dave Djugasvilli. "If only the *Times Colonist* was as dedicated to getting at the truth."

Though some students objected to the $50,000 of student funds being put into the study, clearly those people are class traitors and should probably be shot on sight.

The report will be reprinted in its entirety in an upcoming issue of *the sMartlet*.

sMartlet accused of unfair coverage by engineers and commerce students

BY PICKLES LEROW

A handful of students calling themselves Engineers and Commerce Students for a Kinder Campus (ECSKC) are taking *the sMartlet* to task over what they say is unfair coverage.

The 500-member strong group is pointing to 15 years of s*Martlet* journalism which they say systematically ignores both engineers and business students on campus, while "glorifying the inferior faculties of humanities and science."

"*The sMartlet* is made up of primarily liberal arts students and that shines through in their coverage," says ECSKC member Ted Morrison. "Not only are our events ignored, such as the Business students' Bobbing for Cell Phones fundraiser and the Combined Engineering Pub Crawl/Stomach Pump, but issues of importance to our members are being ignored like the need to deregulate tuition fees to make our programs more competitive with the US and the university's blockage of corporate 'curriculum developers' like Monsanto and Dow Chemicals."

A study of 15 years' worth of *sMartlet* coverage, commissioned by ECSKC, revealed that only one per cent of the news stories mentioned either campus group. Of those, 99 per cent included the keyword sexism, 96 per cent included the key phrase "right-wing bigots" and oddly enough 76 per cent included the phrase "funny looking hair."

In stories about campus issues, engineers and business students are rarely asked for comment. In fact, according to the study, everyone quoted in *the sMartlet* over the past 15 years were friends, family, pets and lovers of the staff.

ECSKC is hoping the Canadian Student Press Council (CSPC) will penalize *the sMartlet* for its actions. A letter to the association has already been drafted by the group.

However, naysayers point out that the Canada-wide organization's board of directors includes bigwigs from the country's largest anti-engineer and business student lobby groups.

The Canadian Federation of Lefty Students, well-known for criticizing the commercialization of engineering and business programs in Canada, is closely associated with CSPC.

Editors at *the sMartlet* declined to comment on the complaints, but did make hand gestures.

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Sex Column: a how-to

BY "SASSY" GLEN

All of you who have bought into those clever gimmicks to make sex pleasurable – pushing metal rods through various erogenous zones, wrapping yourself in leather or slathering your skin with ambrosia edible message oil – have forgotten the true meaning of sex: reproduction.

All you need to make that third Monday of every month as quick and successful as possible is a sheet, a pair of scissors and a ground-breaking position that will have you in and out in five minutes flat, and free to return to bible study, that pot roast dinner or completing the letter of support to the Kansas Education Board.

The Missionary Position.

It's easy, quick, time-tested and true – almost the drive-thru version of intercourse. Who would want anything else?

And the sheet? Using the sissors, cut a hole about the size of your fist one 1/4 up the sheet (for easy insertion), place over your partner and the 'conception blanket' is complete. A handy aparatus, it blocks out any fringe desires that might complicate the task at hand: reproduction.

And we all know that is the sole purpose of this act.

I'm reminded of a man I just might call the Guru of Reproduction – my grade nine science teacher. This man had perfected the task. He'd only had sex three times – one time for each of his children.

I remember sitting in class while he extolled the virtues of reproduction – a dirty but unavoidable job.

He taught the class the importance of the female mucous flow (in order to keep 'mistakes' – those acts that didn't result in a child – to a minimum) and the need for absolute darkness (to keep those dirty urges for gratification under control).

And what about your partner – covered in the new conception blanket and bathed in darkness? Don't worry. You can pull the blanket away from the face after you're done.

Don't listen to those fringe philosophies that preach the benefits of prolonging stimulation and active attentiveness for your partner – they are missing the point. No one really wants any of that anyway.

Taoism? It belongs with those friction-activated massage oils, genital piercings and leather thongs – on the shelf of a seedy back alley porn shop.

Remember: keep it quick, quiet and dark. Everything else will follow.

in the spotlight

"What do *you* hate the most about *the Martlet*?"

BY KRISTIN FROZENMAN AND DAVID DIABOLUS

rachel darvill
4th year biology

"I don't even read it 'cause everyone tells me it's crap."

anna king
4th year history

"I hate extremist views when I find them in *the Martlet*."

michelle iulianella
2nd year education

"What I really hate is the disgusting comics at the end. Sometimes they're a little too vulgar.

steven russel
1st year mechanical engineering

"Not enough cartoons at the end. There should be more Nick O'Teen."

Pepsi gains control of our young

BY DR. JOSEPH GLEZOS

In a move that some are calling "a chilling throwback to the eugenics movements of the '20s and '30s" and others are hailing as "the marketing coup of the millenium," the Pepsi corporation has unveiled a massive bioengineering project to make the children of Canada dependent on Pepsi.

The project, code-named Operation Market Share, combines advanced genetic technology and psychological programming to instil in children the biological imperative to drink Pepsi. It's scheduled to be implemented in Pepsi-funded neo-natal wings in Canadian hospitals this May.

"This was the next logical step for the Pepsi Corporation," said company spokesperson Lou C. Fer. "First we managed to get involved with people's education through exclusivity deals and sponsorship programs with underfunded schools. Now, by agreeing to help out Canada's overburdened health care system, we've gained access to a whole new base of consumers."

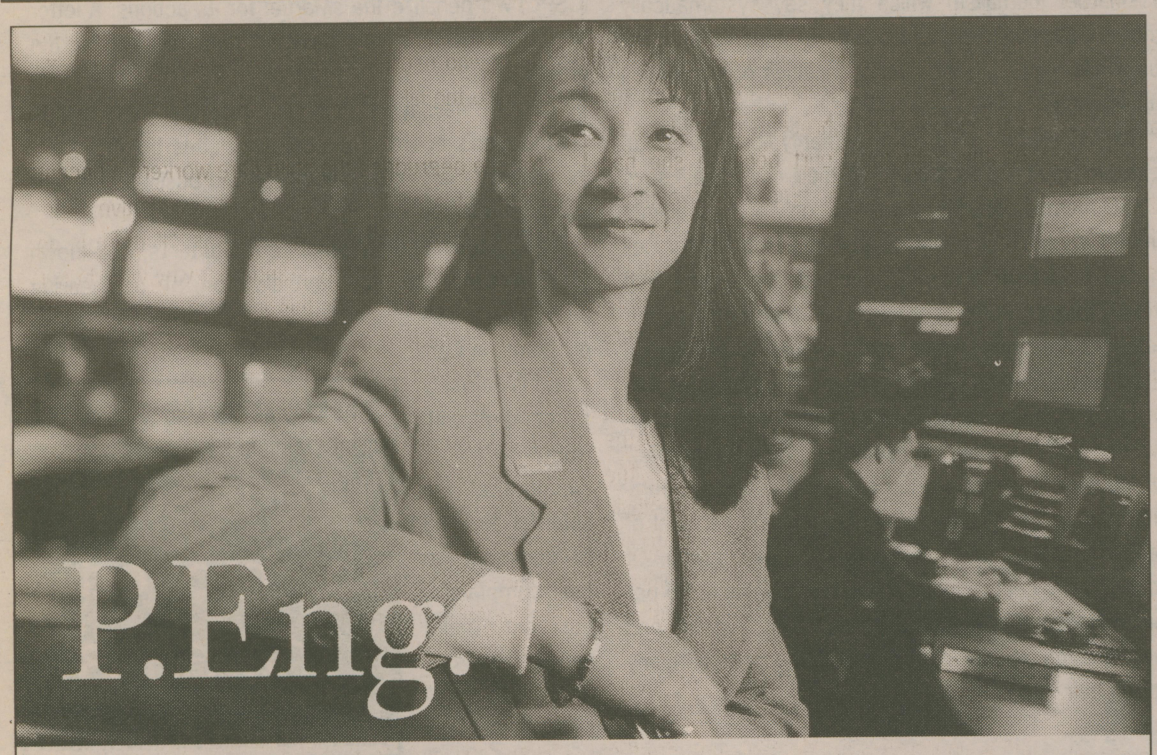
Canadian hospitals jumped at the chance to receive adequate funding, despite the necessity of handing over generation after generation into the waiting hands of Pepsi-Cola.

"Well what the hell would you have done!" yelled a frazzled chief of surgery at the Royal Columbian hospital as he did a combination apendectomy/rhinoplasty to save time.

Operation Market Share starts off slowly, making the child unsatisfied with other fluids such as water and breast milk. However, by the age of 16 the need has developed into a full blown dependancy. After that, the child must consume 600 mL of Pepsi every 12 to 14 hours or undergo a violent withdrawal process ending three days later with death.

The project was announced last Thursday at Pepsi's annual stockholder's meeting, as part of Pepsi's new ad campaign "Pepsi: You've got no choice." The announcement resulted in a radical increase in Pepsi stock prices, making them the second largest company in the world (though they still trailed Microsoft who established market dominance with their twin nukings of Apple Computers and the US justice department).

Aided by their new capital, Pepsi began staging hostile takeovers of several large companies, specifically media corporations to ensure they receive good press on this issue. For more information on the Pepsi corporation, read next week's issue of *the Pepsi-Cola sMartlet*. And drink lots of Pepsi.



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here's the REAL news

Students angry over honorary degree

BY CARMEL ECKER

One of Canada's Supreme Court justices, Louise Arbour, is set to receive an honorary degree from the University of Victoria on Apr. 7, the last day of the university's millennium celebration, but some students believe she shouldn't.

Arbour, former prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunals for Yugoslavia and Rwanda, has been accused of being a "lapdog of western powers" by Paul Kellogg in a *Socialist Worker* article called "Louise Arbour: A friend to War Criminals," because she didn't investigate the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) actions during both of these crises.

Although the UVic senate committee cannot disclose any information on why they chose to honour Arbour, Aaron Welch, a member of the student senate committee, said the senators decide who to honour based on information from a docket that's given to them.

The information, Welch said, is usually positive, and although senators can do their own research on the candidates, they only had about a week to find alternative information on this year's 11 nominees.

A recent profile in *The Ring* – UVic's public relations newspaper – cites Arbour's work as the chief prosecutor for the war crimes tribunal, her contributions to the legal profession, her teaching history at York University and now her appointment as a Supreme Court Justice.

This year there is a special convocation for the new millennium in which candidates were chosen for their contributions to society in the 20th century and their anticipated role in the 21st century.

The University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS) director of academics, Kari Worton expressed concerns over Arbour's role in the United Nations (UN) tribunal, and her previous legal judgments which may not have been debated enough.

Worton said student senators were not well enough informed of Arbour's image outside of the mainstream media, which has rarely criticized Arbour's actions.

In the 1987 case Regina vs. Seaboyer and Gayme, Arbour ruled that a woman's sexual history is admissible in a rape trial.

This judgment is distressing to women who work with rape victims and it makes them question why UVic is offering an honorary degree to someone who doesn't stand up for women's rights.

"Her ruling is steeped in old-world thinking," said Roshni Narain, co-ordinator of UVic's O.U.R. Sexual Assault Centre.

Assault centre volunteer Heather Gaskill compared Arbour's decision to one of Judge John McClung's rulings in Alberta last year. In Regina v. Ewanchuk, McClung acquitted a man of sexual assault, saying the woman implied consent even though she said "no" several times. McClung's decision was later over turned by Court Justice Claire L'Heureux-Dubé, who was publicly criticized for condemning McClung for perpetuating stereotypes about sexual assault victims.

Gaskill said she finds the fact that Arbour is receiving an honorary degree offensive.

"The university let women down. She [Arbour] let women down," said Narain. "What's the message we're sending to our grads?"

The most recent and prominent criticism of Arbour, however, concerns her involvement with the International Criminal Tribunal.

Among Arbour's high profile critics on this issue are Edward Herman, who co-wrote *Manufacturing Consent* with Noam Chomsky, and Christopher Black, a Toronto lawyer who contributed to a formal complaint, calling for the indictment of leaders of NATO for war crimes.

Herman and Black's article, "Louise Arbour: Unindicted War Criminal," which appeared in the latest issue of *Canadian Dimension's*, discusses Arbour's failure to investigate NATO's war crimes in Yugoslavia.

The article alleges Arbour acted in the best interests of NATO, allowing herself to be manipulated to further NATO's political agenda even though she was working for the UN.

Some say the timing of Yugoslavia leader Slobodan Milosevic's indictment by Arbour was suspicious. The tribunal's evidence was based on six weeks of "very flimsy and suspicious evidence," said York University professor Michael Mandel in a letter obtained by *the Martlet* to Arbour's successor Carla Del Ponte.

NATO leaders used the indictment to justify their continued bombing in Serbia, according to Herman and Black.

Thousands of people in the international community complained to Arbour that NATO intentionally bombed civilian targets – including hospitals, electricity plants and residential neighbourhoods – which is a violation of the Geneva Convention, writes Mandel.

Beside cluster bombs and other inhumane weapons, NATO used depleted uranium bullets and bombs, which causes environmental and possibly health damage and has been banned by the UN.

Neither Arbour, nor Del Ponte, launched a formal investigation against NATO.

While the alternative media is raising questions about Arbour's role in the tribunal,

UVic honours Supreme Court Justice Louise Arbour despite UN controversy. photo provided

the mainstream media has paid little attention to the issue.

Last year, an international group of lawyers sent a request for Arbour to indict 67 NATO leaders and officials for war crimes. Among them are Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

The lawyers' formal complaint states that "NATO leaders have openly admitted targeting civilian infrastructure."

Critics say Arbour was in a conflict of interest when she stepped down from the tribunal to accept Chrétien's offer of a seat on the Supreme Court because she had been asked several times to investigate Chrétien.

Before Arbour stepped down from the UN tribunal to take a place in Canada's Supreme Court, Mandel sent several letters to Arbour requesting her to investigate NATO's actions.

She responded to the letters and met the lawyers once at the Hague — the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia (ICTY) headquarters in the Netherlands — but nothing substantial ever came of this.

Herman and Black point out that the United States donated large amounts of money (about $3 million in cash and equipment in 1994-1995) to the ICTY, which now has a budget of $95,942,600, up from the 1993 budget of $276,000.

The most recent controversy surrounding Arbour is a leaked report, released by the *National Post*, alleging Arbour and other UN prosecutors withheld information while investigating genocide in Rwanda.

According to the report, three Tutsis admitted their involvement, along with an unidentified foreign government, in the death of Rwandan Hutu president, Juvenal Habyarimana, whose assassination is attributed with starting the massacre between the Hutus and Tutsis.

Arbour was unavailable for comment by press time because she is out of the country.

Child care fees up to cover wages

BY JULIET LAMMERS

As of May 1, UVic parents will pay higher child care fees for the first time in six years.

The reasons for the increase "are simply budgetary," says UVic Students' Society chair, Morgan Stewart. "When looking at the budget there is no other alternative."

Stewart says the only other choice is to launch a political campaign urging the provincial and federal governments to provide more funding to the university.

"This is going to penalize only a few students. We need to look to the source of base funding, [which is] the federal government, and push them to provide more overall funding."

Child care workers joined Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) 951 in early 1999, seeking to have terms of employment similar to those of CUPE members. Since CUPE has negotiated wage increases with the university retroactive to April 1999, the Child Care Services' budget has been operating at a deficit for most of this fiscal year. Fees will be increased to compensate for the deficit and the wage increases.

The Child Care Advisory Board, consisting of UVic parents who use the Child Care Services, reluctantly agreed to the hike in fees in order to meet increased costs.

"No one begrudges the child care workers a decent standard of living," said David Clode, executive director of Student and Ancillary Services. "If there is no quality pay and no quality standards, why would quality people want to enter this industry other than for the love of the job, which at the end of the day doesn't pay the bills? Quality child care makes a huge difference in how well a parent can work or study. It is a huge load off of a parent's mind to know that their children are well cared for."

The fee increase has not been spread over the entire university because Child Care Services is an ancillary service at UVic – it must sustain all of its own costs from its own revenue.

The university has been a part of child coalitions and letter campaigns in hopes that the government will realize that child care is a priority.

"Hope still springs that the provincial and federal governments will realize that Child Care is critical, just as critical as other segments such as health care and hospitals," says Clode.

Child Care Service workers chose not to comment on the issue.

For children from 18 months to three years the increase will be from $620 a month to $669 a month, for three to five-year-olds the fees will increase from $438 to $473 a month, and children six to 12 from $177 to $199 a month.

The provincial government offers subsidies to low income families, which reduce the fees significantly. For the youngest age group, they offer $528 a month, they offer $368 a month for middle age children, and $147 a month for older children.

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NDP shows students the money in new budget

BY SIMON GLEZOS

The New Democratic Party's attempts to revamp their image in the post-Glen Clark era spells good news for post-secondary education in B.C.

Provincial Finance Minister Paul Ramsey announced the NDP's first budget under newly elected Premier Ujjal Dosanjh. Ramsey read out the details of the ninth consecutive deficit budget before the Legislative Assembly on March 27, offering B.C. post secondary institutions $85 million in new spending for the 2000-01 fiscal year – a jump of 7.5 per cent over last year's advanced education spending.

"Our investments in higher education put resources directly into skills and knowledge – the keys to opportunity in today's economy," said Ramsey.

The new budget freezes tuition for the fifth year in a row, giving B.C. the second lowest tuition rates in the country.

"The freeze has helped enrollment grow faster in B.C. than anywhere else in Canada," Ramsey said in his speech. "Enrollment is growing throughout the province, reflecting our commitment to provide quality education and opportunities in all regions."

The new advanced education funding will be granted to post-secondary institutions to help offset the cost of the tuition freeze, to increase core funding and to pay for new courses.

They will share $39 million put towards over 5,000 new spaces at universities and colleges.

"This budget is great news for students," said Mark Veerkamp, B.C. chairperson for the Canadian Federation of Students. "We were looking for an increase in funding, the expansion of spaces and keeping the tuition fee freeze. All those commitments were met. And as far as the spaces go, 5,000 spaces is more than we expected."

A quarter of the new spaces are saved for high tech and nursing, a direct response to a both a national and provincial labour shortage.

President of the University President's council, Don Avison acknowledged this leaning, but was optimistic about new spaces opening up in all faculties.

"I think that inevitably, given the nature of an evolving economy, that's where a government is going to focus some of its investment. But I would hasten to point out that there's been a support of the core of what universities do as well, so there's not really focus in any specific area."

Four hundred spaces were reserved for nursing students as part of the government's attempts to improve the province's overburdened health care system. Over 40 per cent of this year's total expenditures go to health care.

A capital development fund of $133-million will also go towards university infrastructure. A ministry official said that although the Minister of Advanced Education will announce new projects at a later date, approximately $97-million of this fund will be allocated to ongoing care and maintenance projects.

Another $117-million will go to research infrastructure.

Overall, this budget runs a $1.3 billion deficit on a budget of $22.3 billion since the NDP took power in 1991. The total provincial debt rises to $36.47 billion, with any jump in revenue going to tax cuts – mainly for middle and low income families and small business – rather than deficit reduction. The minister simply called the debt management target one of the "challenges" the NDP will have to face.

In his speech, Minister Ramsey extolled the virtues of the new budget, calling it "a modern, balanced direction for the new government." Indeed, throughout the presentation, the Minister went out of his way to distance himself and the new premier from the leadership of former premier Glen Clark.

All in all, the minister seemed optimistic that people would take his speech at face value. When asked whether or not he believed that people would "buy" the new NDP image, he simply replied, "Well, they'll judge us by our actions."

- with files from CUP

UVic big wigs speak on budget

BY GILLIAN JEROME

The university has yet to be told exactly how much money it will get based on budget figures, and how that money will be used. However, a few big wigs on campus were asked for their initial reactions.

David Strong, University President

Strong said this week's provincial budget gives B.C.'s four main universities "everything we asked for."

Strong said the promised five per cent increase in the university's operating budget is the first of its kind in six years. For the past six years, the university has seen a 14 per cent drop in overall funding, meaning crowded classes, fewer teachers, canceled courses and old equipment.

Money for new spaces is great news for UVic. He said he expects we will get $2 million in new spaces, but he's not sure how the money will be divided among faculties.

"It'll be two or three weeks before we get the precise definitives."

Strong estimates the university will see $5 million more than last year for core funding, things like library improvements, new hires, curriculum development, and financial assistance for individual students.

Strong said the $117 million budgeted for research will show up in places like UVic's high performance super-computer facility in the faculty of engineering. The cutting-edge lab allows university researchers to crunch numbers for huge projects. If an astonomer wanted to use data from the Hubbel space craft, she could use the mega-computer to do simulations on how the galaxies have evolved, for example.

Strong said this budget will begin to remedy the downslide in the quality of education which has had administrators worried about our competitive edge. "[Due to cancelled courses and smaller staff] it's gotten so that many students can't finish their degrees in four years," he said. The president made no promises about how much money will be going directly into scholarships and bursaries.

None of the new money will go to existing staff salaries or pensions, he said, with the possible exception of "one or two employee groups."

Dr. Janet Torch, Nursing Director

Torch said she has "no idea" how many of the 400 spaces will be given to UVic's nursing school. The province has yet to announce how the spaces will be divided among B.C.'s 17 post-secondary nursing programs.

However, Torch calls the funding for new recruits "a drop in the bucket" compared to how many nurses are needed in B.C.

Serious federal cutbacks to health care in the past 10 years have resulted in closed hospital units and lay offs throughout the province. Torch said post-secondary institutions have seen a steady decline in applications as a result.

"The spaces mean possibly more interest in nursing. But we need three times that many spaces."

The budget also responded to the province's overall shortage of nurses with money to create 600 new positions in hospitals and other care agencies. At the same time, said Torch, B.C. has a cap on the number of nurses admitted to degree programs. Under the current legislation, 50 per cent of all nursing students are forced to graduate from college, as opposed to continuing studies at university to get their degree. Torch said this puts a squeeze on colleges to teach four years of knowledge in just two years.

She said the province has also asked the provincial board who license nurses to delay the implementation of their new exam, wanting professional standards to remain outdated to meet the cutbacks.

"The mentality is that nurses don't need to know very much, you can just get the docs to train them in hospitals. They're not only trying to dumb-down nursing but it's the idea of creating someone in a subservient role.

"It's the old thinking to keep them barefoot and pregnant and in the kitchen . . . B.C.'s legislation is very outdated." Torch called the forced exit discriminatory, a reflection of legislation which targets a field laboured predominately by women. "I can't imagine engineers putting up something like that."

Dr. Giles Hogya, Dean of Fine Arts

Hogya said his faculties, including theatre, art history, visual arts, music and writing, will be looking for more money to hire professors, replace outdated equipment, and build classroom and rehearsal space.

The primary goal, he said, is to make up for teaching staff lost to budget cuts. The art history department needs someone to teach modern art and the writing department wants to hire a First Nations writer to teach indigenous writing. "Before looking at future growth, we want to get what we lost back," said Hogya.

He says although the budget is aimed at direct needs in high tech and nursing, he doesn't expect fine arts will be slighted when it comes to allocation. "We expect to be treated fairly, but if there's new money and we don't get our fair share that's a different story."

Hogya said he doesn't know what the faculty will do if they're given money from the budget promise for new student spaces.

"We're already bulging at the seams. Students are already falling over each other."

Hogya said the music department needs a new practice wing. Their 25-year-old grand pianos need to be replaced. The Phoenix theatre needs more rehearsal space and lighting and sound equipment updated. The fine arts computer lab is waiting on $60,000 worth of repair and upgrading.

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GEOS

UVic hacker settles dispute with Mattel

BY PATTI EDGAR

A computer science student has avoided a costly legal battle with one of the world's largest toy makers.

UVic master's student Matthew Skala signed an agreement on March 24 which gives Microsystems Software Inc., a division of Mattel, the rights to his portion of a computer program and essay that examines the inner workings of Cyber Patrol. The Mattel software blocks access to Internet sites and is touted on the company's web site as "the world's most trusted Internet filtering solution."

Skala and his Swedish Internet buddy Eddy Jansson spent about six weeks examining Cyber Patrol before creating and distributing through the Internet a file of documents and programs called CP4break, which explains how Cyber Patrol works, examines part of its roster of 80,000 blocked sites, and allows users to override the password on installed programs.

Sydney Rubin, a spokesperson for Microsystems Inc., said the company launched the lawsuit because Skala and Jansson undermined the ability of parents to protect children from inappropriate content online and infringed on the company's copyrights to the program.

> *We think this is a product that empowers parents. This is a product that stands between the people and the government*

"Parents buy this product as a useful tool to help them, not to replace them. This didn't help them, it hurt them," said Rubin. "[Skala and Jansson] stole our intellectual property."

However, Skala says the lawsuit obscures larger issues of academic freedom and individual rights.

The self-described youth rights advocate said he tackled Cyber Patrol's software because he is concerned Internet filtering software tramples on young people's freedom of choice. The academic challenge of understanding how Cyber Patrol works also attracted Skala to the project, along with the desire to expose just how the program works and what Internet sites it blocks.

"Often the people who are being blocked by Cyber Patrol are adults. Cyber Patrol is marketed to schools, libraries and employers," says Skala. "You have a private company that's deciding what is right or wrong for a public organization."

Organizations such as anti-web filtering group Peacefire and Internet freedom of speech group Electronic Frontier Canada point out that the lists of content being blocked by companies like Cyber Patrol isn't available to consumers because it is considered a trade secret. Skala comes from a long line of people who hack Internet filtering programs to reveal what's on their list.

In the CP4break essay, which Skala and Jansson removed from their web sites after Microsystems threatened to sue, the authors focus on a few hundred of the thousands of web sites blocked by Cyber Patrol.

Although they say they see no evidence of a clear political or religious agenda, Web sites criticizing Cyber Patrol are censored, as well as an atheist news group. About 50 per cent are inactive, which brings into question the company's marketing motive.

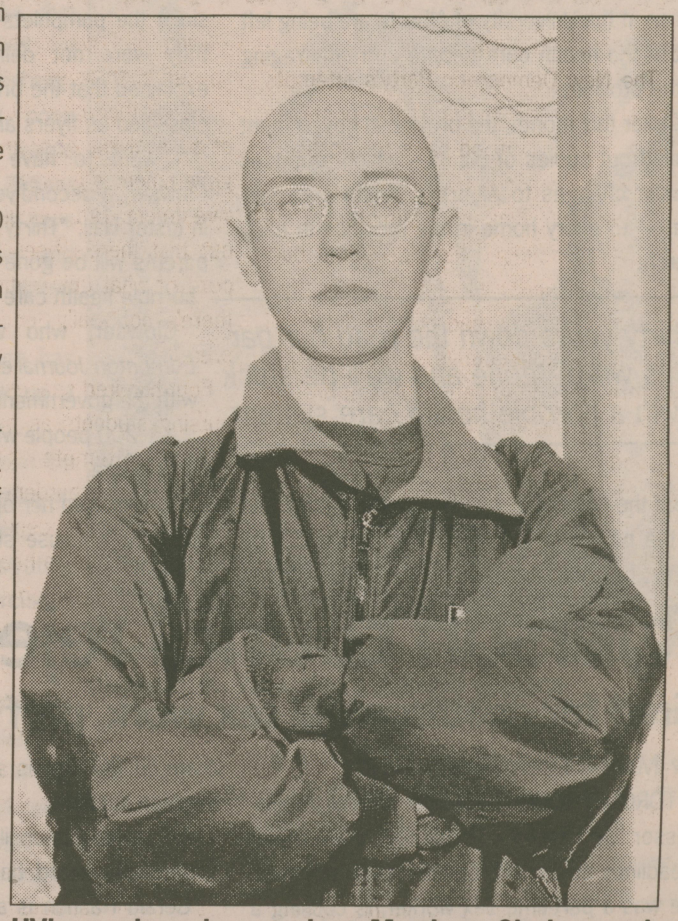
According to Peacefire's web site, Planned Parenthood, the AIDS Authority, *Mother Jones* magazine and a feminism news group are among the sites blocked by the company. And a 1996 essay published by Cyber Wire Dispatch also lists queer support and discussion groups on Cyber Patrol's block list.

However, Rubin calls such criticism "nonsense," and although she didn't want go through the details of why each example used by Skala, Jansson, Cyber Wire Dispatch and Peacefire was or wasn't on the list, she cited Planned Parenthood as an example of a website which is only blocked if parents chose to activate the sexual education filter on the program.

"That's only one of a 100 reasons why something is or isn't on our list...This is a human creation. It's not perfect, but it's not deeply flawed," she said.

Cyber Patrol offers parents the chance to work with the company's team of researchers, which updates the list of blocked cites daily, to create an alternative to government Internet censorship, she said.

"We think this is a product that empowers parents. This is a product that stands between the people and the government," she said.



UVic engineering student Matthew Skala cracks codes on Mattel Web censorship software and avoids a legal battle by giving the info back.
photo by Kristin Froneman

David Jones, president of Electronic Frontier Canada and a professor at McMaster University, said his group stands behind Skala and doesn't feel he did anything illegal.

"There are two ways to battle censorship. One is to fight the decision makers. Another approach is to work around the technology. It's a way for people, especially young people, to get their freedom back and we like it."

Skala says he has been criticized by his peers for settling out of court and not accepting Electronic Frontier Canada's offer to set up a legal defence fund.

However, he says he wasn't looking to become a legal test case for whether the practice of reverse engineering — taking apart programs to see how they work — is protected under copyright law.

Jones says Microsystems lawsuit will send a chill through academia, where reverse engineering is a "time honoured tradition."

The agreement Skala signed states that he can't reverse engineer or create programs that bypass any other Microsystems software or help someone else do it. Jansson signed a similar agreement.

"In practice you have certain freedoms. If some big company with lots of money and a lot of lawyers doesn't like what you're doing, you'll stop doing it," said Jones, who added he won't be able to use the essay in his classroom teaching without Microsystems' permission.

The rez, the rez, the rez is on fire

BY GILLIAN JEROME

A fire started in a residence building at the University of Victoria last weekend caused about $30,000 in damage, leaving two students temporarily displaced and without access to a computer.

Two female students on the fourth floor of the Elma Sanderson campus residence are waiting on an investigation by the Saanich fire marshal and Coast Claims Service Ltd. insurance before they can move back in.

The fire started just before 9 p.m. on March 24. The Saanich fire department arrived shortly after and left two and a half hours later, once the fire was extinguished and the smoke cleared.

A white board on the door of room 411 says, "Have moved to 308 so come and find us there if you come leaving gifts and money."

The main door to their floor is propped open with a dish towel. The draft blowing from the opening underneath their door smells like burnt plastic.

The occupants couldn't be reached for comment by press time.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, said fire prevention chief Daryl Driemel.

He said either one or both of the occupants will be covered by their parents' home owner's insurance. A computer monitor, hard drive, printer and desk are included in the list of damaged items.

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University residence left out of health care debate

BY JON DUNBAR

EDMONTON (CUP) – Students living in residence at the University of Alberta are being left out of the health care debate currently raging in the province.

Earlier this month, the provincial government mailed out copies of Bill 11– which proposes drastic changes to Alberta's health care system – to every home in the province in early March.

Thirty years down the road our parents will be gone and we'll be stuck with a horrible health care system

But the pamphlet, which provides the full text of the bill along with easy-to-understand footnotes, has not been delivered to occupants of Lister Hall, a University residence.

The University's mail service explained that since the pamphlets did not bear addresses, they were not delivered. A representative explained that the brochures would have been classified as flyers and thus not distributed.

"I want to have a say," said Christine Clowser, a second-year science student living in Lister Hall. "Thirty years down the road our parents will be gone and we'll be stuck with a horrible health care system."

Clowser, who wrote a letter to the *Edmonton Journal* expressing disappointment with the government, said the vast majority of the 1,200 people who live in Lister Hall are of voting age.

Clowser said her opinion about Bill 11 is not informed because she does not know much about it.

"I was kind of interested to see what [the pamphlet] had to say," she said.

Residents of the on-campus fraternity FIJI house also say they have not received the pamphlet.

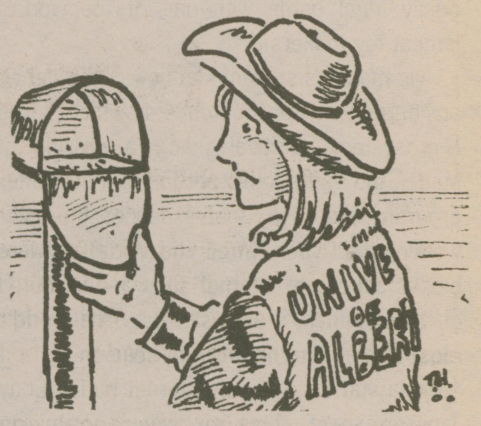
Though one fraternity member was less worried than Clowser.

"If we did get it, it would be bathroom material," said resident Julien McNulty. "But we didn't get it."

The provincial government was not available for comment.

Critics of the bill say Bill 11 could be the dawn of the practice of private medicine in Alberta.

To garner support for the bill, the government hopes its widespread publicity campaign will calm voters' fears.



Ryerson council rejects ex-prof's award

Fired for controversial sex work, prof offers cash for student journalism

BY MAGDA LEONOWICZ

TORONTO (CUP) – A former journalism professor at Ryerson University, who made headlines across the country after admitting he was a part-time sex worker, is causing a controversy at his former school once again.

Gerald Hannon, who was a part-time journalism instructor at Ryerson from 1994 to 1996, wants to offer a prize for dissenting journalism.

The award has been rejected by both Ryerson's Student Administrative Council and the University administration.

So Hannon says he is going to advertise the award through the campus papers and by putting flyers in students' mailboxes.

"It is much more difficult without [the student council's] support," he said. "I probably can't afford to run the ads more than once."

Hannon stirred up controversy four years ago when he admitted to *The Toronto Sun* that he worked part-time as a prostitute.

It subsequently became public knowledge that he had written an article in 1978 condoning sex between men and boys.

Hannon was fired and received an undisclosed cash settlement from Ryerson.

He has been pushing since last year to share $1,000 of his settlement money with Ryerson students.

The student council, which was going to endorse the award, backed out in November.

"Gerald Hannon is an amazing writer and it's a great award," said student council President Erin George. "Unfortunately, [we] couldn't be part of it."

Other members of the student council had more serious reservations about endorsing Hannon's award.

"My personal belief is that if a prize is in his name, then it's to promote him," said Rob Haines.

"He believes in pedophilia. I can't support him."

Prior to the student council pulling out, the office of university advancement rejected Hannon's offer to fund the award.

Last May, a letter from Jack Radford, then executive director of the office, noted that Hannon's teaching career had been terminated in 1996.

"It would be inappropriate to re-establish any connection between [Hannon] and the university," the letter stated.

Vince Carlin, chair of the journalism program and publisher of *The Ryersonian*, a student paper on campus, declined to say whether he would accept an ad placed by Hannon.

Magazine instructor Don Obe, who will be one of the judges for this award, said the contest is open to all Ryerson students who have written an article that goes against the grain.

The deadline for either published or unpublished stories is the end of the year, and the prize will be awarded in 2001.

"I don't want people to think I want the writing to reflect my point of view," Hannon said. "The criteria are vague, but the writing needs to respect journalistic demands."

Anti-sweatshop protest ends in student victory

BY NICOLA LUKSIC

TORONTO (CUP) – After 10 days holed up in the University of Toronto president's office in hopes of forcing the University to adopt a code of conduct for clothes bearing the school insignia, the Students Against Sweatshops reluctantly left their post.

The University refused to negotiate with the demonstrators until the office was freed.

I like the fact that this generation of students care about workers around the world

But the students say their action can be considered victorious.

"We're seeing it as a victory," said Derek Laventure, a cognitive science major who's looking forward to catching up on missed sleep.

During the entire occupation, the lights were left on 24 hours a day and all other power sources were cut. Over the last weekend the campus police blasted music into the office.

The occupiers unveiled an open letter signed by 17 notable labour specialists from across North America that stated U of T has no reason to stall in its inclusion of "living wage" in the code.

The code would be the first in Canada that would require all manufacturers dealing with the University to provide details on factory working conditions.

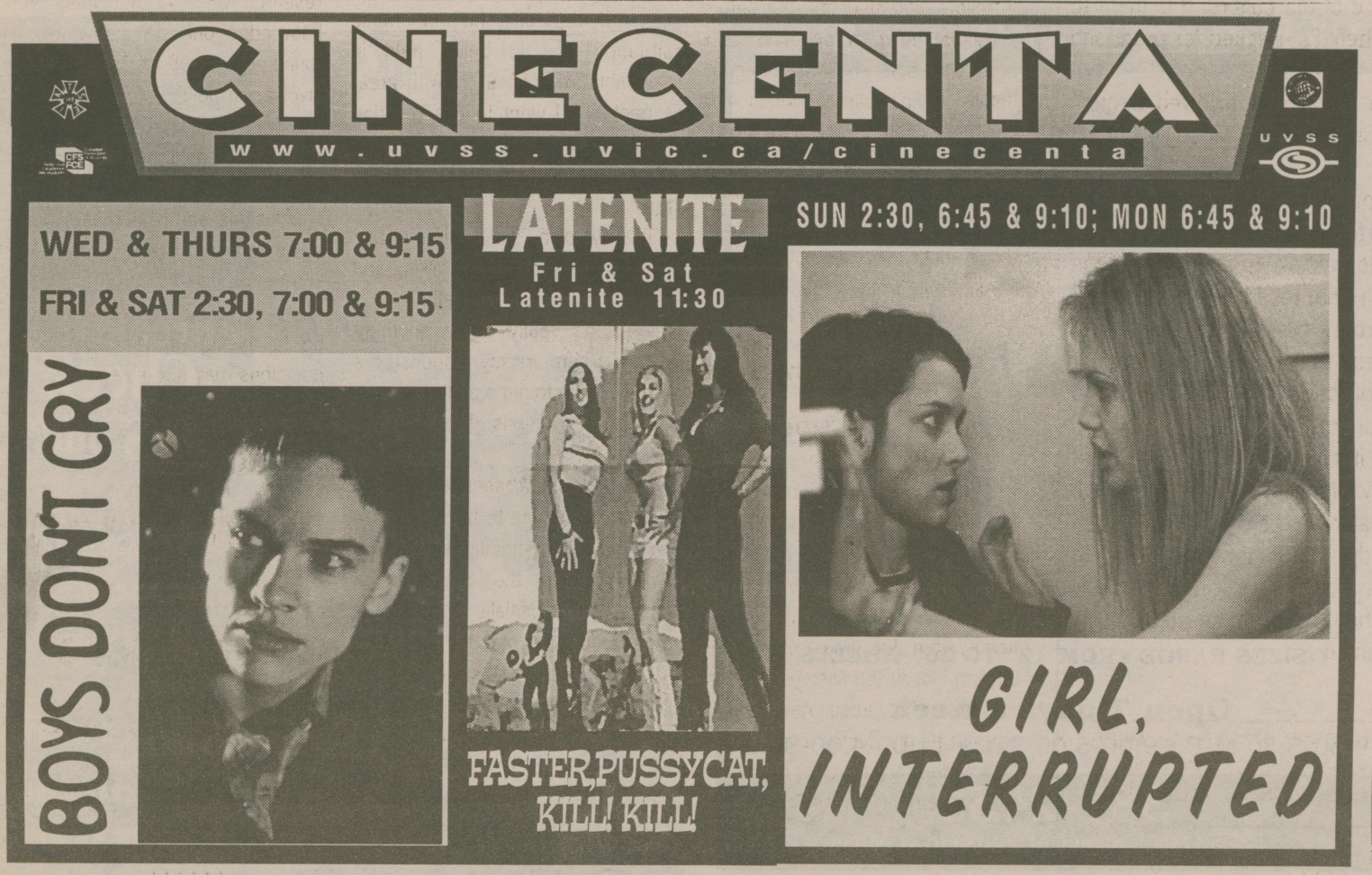
"It did a lot of good to put pressure on administration," said Laventure.

The student protesters have collected over 100 e-mails of support, including one from Stitch, a non-governmental organization in Guatemala.

Support from other areas in the world is also spreading.

"Their actions are in the grandest tradition of Ghandi. It's a great way to push for policy change," said Elaine Bernard, executive director of the Trade Union program at Harvard University. "I think the university should be standing by them.

"In today's world you need to think globally and act locally. I like the fact that this generation of students care about workers around the world."



editorial

This editorial is biased

Alright, everybody gather 'round because this is important. There is an all too dangerous assumption that is accepted as gospel in our society, and we must get rid of it. Everybody ready? Good.

There is no such thing as unbiased reporting. The idea of an objective news source is a myth, a fairy tale told by newspapers that fear scrutiny and believed by people who are too tired to question what they read.

Reporting is one person's recounting of events, and is therefore, by definition, biased. There is no way to get around it. Everybody has an agenda, declared or not. More importantly, there's no such thing as relativity in bias. That means that a copy of the *National Post* is just as biased as a copy of the *Socialist Worker* or *the Martlet* (though some people seem to think there's no difference between those last two).

Bias isn't necessarily a bad thing. Bias is the way you look at the world, what your viewpoint is. Newspapers should be open and honest about their biases. That way people can read their reporting critically and from a position of knowledge. By maintaining that what they're doing is unbiased, these news organizations do a disservice to their readers. They are trying to get the audience to accept what they write as unvarnished truth. "How can you question what is said in the *National Post*? After all, it's unbiased."

Don't believe it.

And don't shy away from papers that are usually reviled for having an "agenda." Everyone has an agenda, and it's usually a sign of integrity to admit it.

But, if we can't ask for objectivity in reporting, what can we ask for?

Well it comes down to two things: accuracy and fairness.

Accuracy means more than just getting the facts right, it means making sure your audience gets the whole picture. If you use a source, you disclose their political affiliations and possible conflicts of interest. If you have an opinion expressed in a report, you explain that the debate ranges far wider than this one belief. Most importantly, if you make a mistake, you admit it (and not bury it on page 34. Put it on the page where the mistake happened).

Fairness is the idea that the media is a forum for all people to express their beliefs. Fairness comes directly from accepting that all reporting is biased. If everything is going to have a bias, then the best thing to do is present as many different biases as possible. At *the Martlet* we attempt to achieve this through an open letter policy and space for student and community editorial pieces.

More importantly, fairness means allowing people access to the media. A newspaper isn't an oracle, dispensing wisdom from the mountaintops to the unwashed masses below. And the news isn't a commodity to be bought and sold in mergers. The media is an integral part of society; it is the voice of our culture. It is there to communicate and inform. But too often it's hijacked for profit and power.

Some newspapers try to get the community involved through ombudspersons, or citizens' advisory councils. Most just aren't interested.

At *the Martlet* we have a unique opportunity to promote fairness and freedom in the media. *The Martlet* is run by a collective and open to everyone. All you have to do is show up and help get the paper out, and you can have a say in what *the Martlet* says and is. Try it. You won't get such an offer from Conrad Black.

We, as the people, have to take a role in the media. We can't just sit back and complain. We have to collectively wake the hell up and take action. We must refuse to uncritically accept whatever corporate news tells us simply because it seems "unbiased." We must read intelligently and question openly. We must support alternative news sources, read outside the major dailies, and most importantly, get involved and look for the truth ourselves. We can become the media. It belongs to us.

And then we won't need to worry about "bias," because bias only affects those who can't think for themselves.

Editorial topics are decided upon by staff at editorial meetings on Mondays at 4:30 and are written by one or more members. Opinions are not necessarily those of all staff.

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SKULLS
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MARTLET SATIRE IS LOST ON UVIC STUDENTS

letters, letters, letters, letters, letters...

DJs in the SUB

[This letter has been edited for length]

With regards to DJs performing in the SUB between 1 and 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, it was my "bright idea" to initiate such a performance. It's unfortunate that we live in such an isolated, individualistic society where people feel they are unable to communicate their emotions and concerns in certain situations like this. All it would have taken that day was to ask Quinn, Chris (who were playing) or myself to turn the music down and your wishes would have been complied with.

All three of us are UVic students. I have not forgotten that this is an academic institution. However, there are many buildings on campus which are quiet and conducive to studying (i.e. the McPherson Library). I believe that the SUB is a sanctuary for all students to take a break from studies, eat, socialize, and experience different walks of life.

I regret if I caused any discomfort to fellow UVic students, but before you judge me or my friends as "clubbers" or people whose talents don't belong in a building which has become a central place in my life for over three years, I ask you to reconsider. I would also like to ask all other UVic students to write to the UVSS and show your appreciation. If you would like to see DJs in the SUB again, your support is needed.

Adam Starr

Mumia is innocent

This letter is in response to the letter "The Truth About Mumia: seeing another side of the story," submitted by Robert Dager in the March 16 edition of *the Martlet*. The "truths" discussed by Mr. Dager all came from the case argued by Joseph Mcgill, the assistant district attorney who prosecuted Mumia, and are hardly "facts," especially in light of the racist record of the justice system of the United States. This is the same system that recently acquitted four police officers of murder, even though they unloaded 41 shots into an innocent black man.

Furthermore, residents of Philadelphia do not have "insider knowledge" about the case, and, on the contrary, may have been exposed to one-sided journalism by the press, thus having their views shaped towards those of the prosecution. Consequently, Mr. Dager's "truths" do nothing to advance the debate over what really happened that night in Philadelphia, and instead, just reiterate the case of the prosecution and the view of the media. Luckily, because of the demands of millions of protesters worldwide, we will one day see the truth when Mumia Abu-Jamal gets a new, fair trial and, based on the evidence, is released.

Rob Tardif

Damn Socialists

Last Thursday, there was a meeting held by the Socialist Club of the university regarding the problematic situation that is being held in Colombia (my country). With great expectation I went to this meeting hoping to understand the real situation better. Instead, I was offended by it.

To my own disappointment, I found a group of people talking and overall supporting something that they don't really know anything about. Therefore my response the next day was to put a poster up condemning the actions of the Socialist Club.

When an organization in a university invites people to talk and show facts about a specific topic, they have to realize the importance of this action, especially in cases like the Colombian situation in which people do not have a general knowledge of the problem. It is absurd to give a conclusion regarding a situation based merely on documentation extracted from the Internet and other media sources which, as is well known are not the most impartial ones. The fact of being a socialist or a supporter of the Socialist ideology does not mean that you have to support all the so-called "Revolutions" without a complete knowledge of their purposes and actions.

With this, I am not trying to say that guerrillas are not the only part of the conflict that does not have a clear ideology and are violating human rights. The government or state (including the army and paramilitary) has shown the same behaviour making the situation worse during all of this "Civil War."

As a Colombian and a member of the UVic community, I felt deeply offended by these irresponsible statements, therefore this led to my protest and this letter. Everybody has the right to create his/her own opinion about a specific situation. However, if you decide to expose and support one of the parts in a determined conflict or situation, do not do it without the proper research and do not base your knowledge only on a few articles found on the web. If you want to be involved in politics and especially if you want to be part of the movement that could help govern this country in a near future, try to make conclusions and statements based on extensive research and valid knowledge of the the situations. Right now your irresponsibility can be harmless, but someday those decisions may not harm susceptibilities but also will jeopardize the lives of innocent people and good people like yourselves.

Carlos Mario Arenas

For more op/ed, see page 18

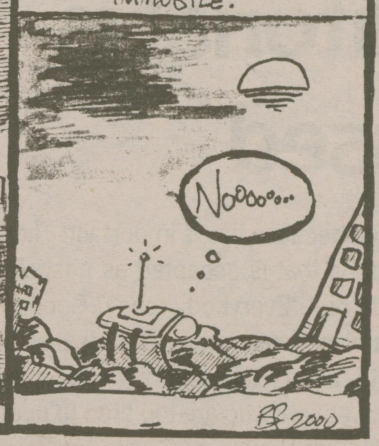
WITH ARCANE POWERS OF PROGNOSTICATION, 3 MARTLET CARTOONISTS BRING YOU A VISION OF THE FUTURE. STARTLED AND DISTURBED, YOU MAY LAUGH, BUT ONLY TO KEEP FROM CRYING. WE HAVE MERELY EXAGGERATED CURRENT TRENDS IN OUR POST-MODERN WORLD. KEEP THAT IN MIND AS WE TAKE YOU...

INTO THE FUTURE

MILITARY EXPERIMENTATION HAS LED TO THE ADOPTION OF COCKROACHES AS SPIES. IMPLANTS THAT ALLOW HUMANS TO CONTROL THEM REMOTELY, COMBINED WITH MICROSCOPIC ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY WILL MEAN THAT NOBODY IS SAFE FROM THE EYE OF BIG BROTHER

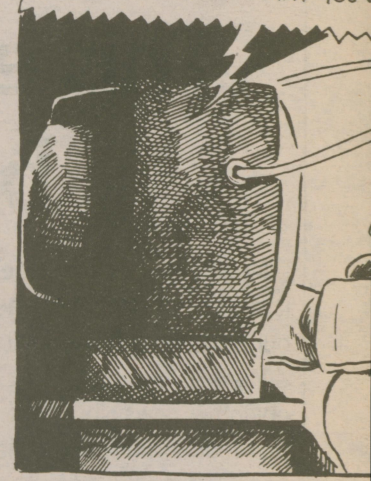
PARANOIA RUNS RAMPANT...

UNFORTUNATELY, AFTER THE APOCALYPSE, THE SOLE SURVIVORS WILL BE FOREVER IMMOBILE.

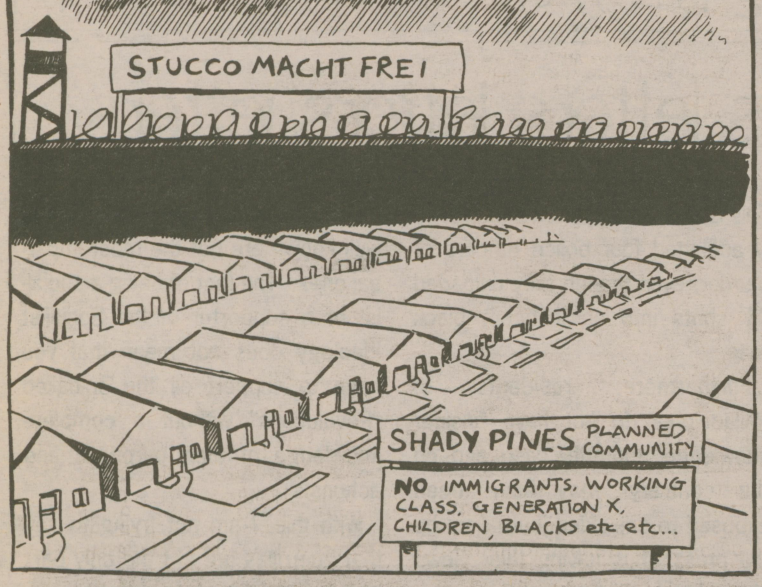


SOON WE WILL ALL LIVE A
INSULAR, STERILE EXISTEN
MENTS, "VIRTUALLY" EXPERIE
OUR TELEVISION SETS.

IN TEN DAYS YOU CAN MAXIM
YOUR PERSONAL POWER ≥ CL
WITH FAT-TRAPPER PLUS YOU
CONTINUE TO EAT WHAT YOU



SOON THE ENTIRE MIDDLE CLASS WILL LIVE IN THAT MOST ORWELLIAN OF OXYMORONS, THE "**WALLED COMMUNITY**." ALREADY THESE INSULAR HALF-ASSED FASCIST UTOPIAS BLIGHT MUCH OF OUR SUBURBAN LAND--SCAPE.



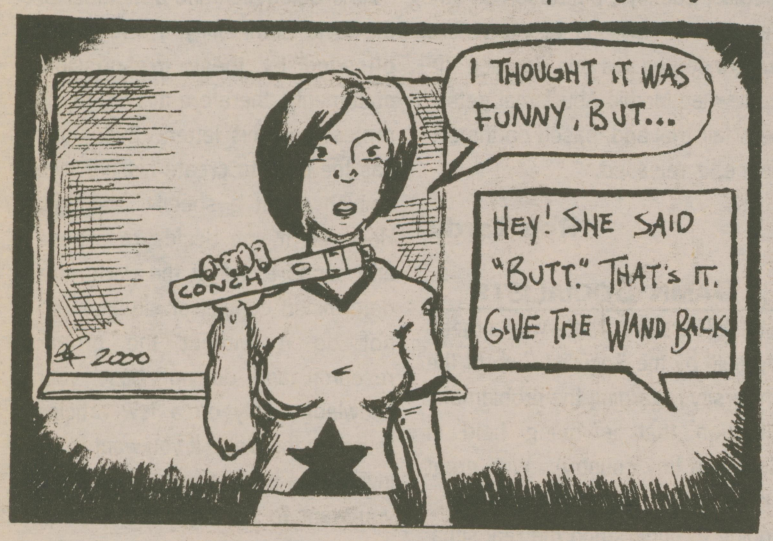
TRUE STORY: JONATHAN CAPEWELL OF MANCHESTER, ENGLAND MAY HAVE BEEN THE FIRST HUMAN TO OVERDOSE ON DEODORANT. THE SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD DIED RECENTLY OF A HEART ATTACK. THE CAPEWELLS ARE DEMANDING WARNING LABELS FOR DEODORANT CANS

YOUR SON HAS 10 TIMES THE LETHAL LEVEL OF BUTANE AND PROPANE IN HIS BLOOD.
HE SPRAYED HIMSELF WITH DEODORANT FROM HEAD TO FOOT TWICE A DAY.
HE JUST WANTED TO SMELL GOOD

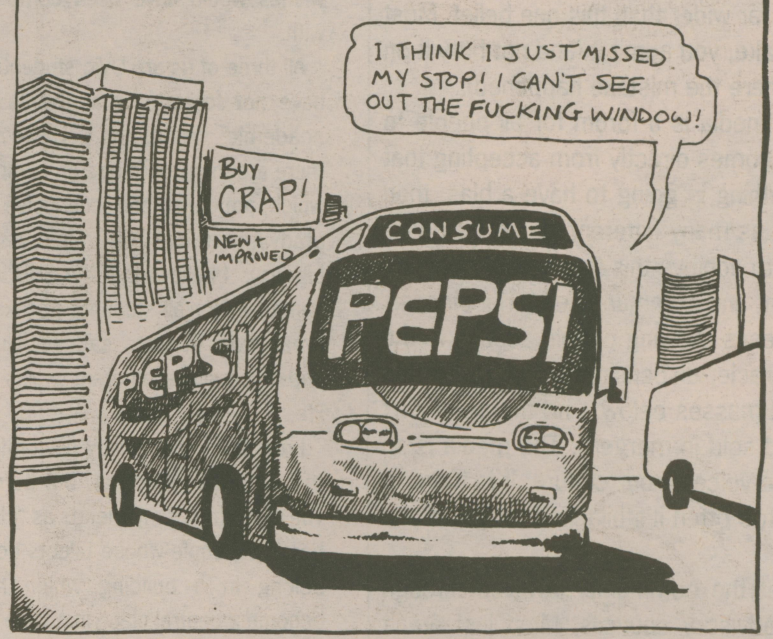
SHOULD JONATHAN CAPEWELL'S OBSESSIVE DEODORIZING SURPRISE US ANY MORE THAN A DISORDER LIKE ANOREXIA? PERHAPS THE WARNING LABELS SHOULD GO ON THE T.V.S AND MAGAZINES THAT CARRY THE SEEDS OF NEUROTIC BEHAVIOR. OTHERWISE, WE MIGHT SEE A RASH OF DEATHS FROM OVER-SHAVING AMONG MEN, OR MUTILATED WOMEN WHO WAX OFF THEIR SKIN...

MARCH, 1998 - Georgia
SUSPENDED FOR WEARI
"COKE IN EDUCATION
WITH THE INCREASE
IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. M
PROVIDED WITH ONLY

TO REMEDY THE PROBLEM OF POLITICAL CORRECTNESS, BABIES WILL BE TRACHEOTOMIZED AT BIRTH AND A SPECIAL SPEAKING WAND WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE UPON APPLICATION. THIS WILL ENSURE EVERYBODY CAREFULLY CHOOSES THEIR WORDS BEFORE SPEAKING SO NOBODY IS OFFENDED.



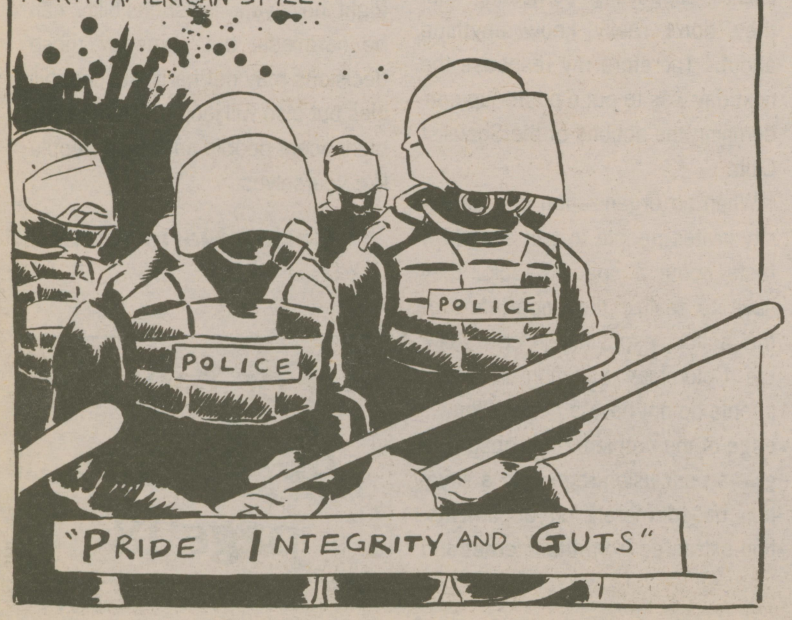
SOON WE WILL ALL RIDE IN GIANT ADVERTISEMENTS, FOR TOOTHPASTE, SOFT DRINKS, HAIR GEL, REAL-ESTATE COMPANIES AND CHEWING GUM.



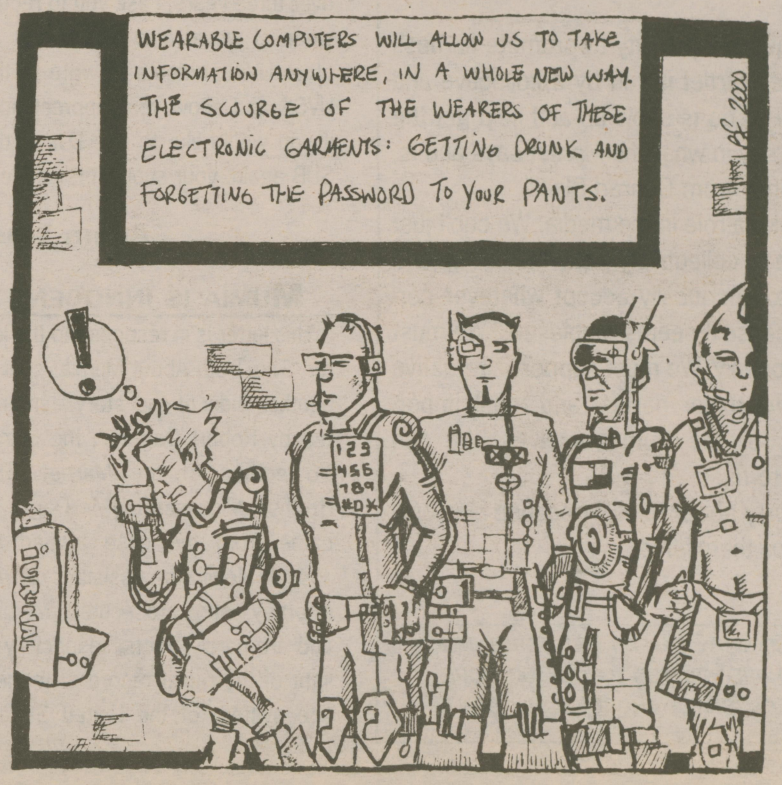
EVERY YEAR CITIES PUMP MORE
IS ESTIMATED THAT 70% OF THE W
BY THE YEAR 2020. HOW WILL W
COULD BRING? WE'RE ALREADY SEEING
WEALTHY. AREN'T THESE THE PEOP

WHAT ARE THESE PEOPLE THINKING? W
BLACK, AND THE TREES HAVE ALL B

SOON WE WILL LIVE IN CITIES THAT ARE NOTHING BUT HUGE URBAN BANUSTANS WHERE "ORDINARY FASCISM" WILL REQUIRE ARMIES OF "**ROBOCOPS**" TO DISCIPLINE AND PUNISH MALCONTENTS AND TO ENFORCE APARTHEID, NORTH AMERICAN STYLE.



WEARABLE COMPUTERS WILL ALLOW US TO TAKE INFORMATION ANYWHERE, IN A WHOLE NEW WAY. THE SCOURGE OF THE WEARERS OF THESE ELECTRONIC GARMENTS: GETTING DRUNK AND FORGETTING THE PASSWORD TO YOUR PANTS.

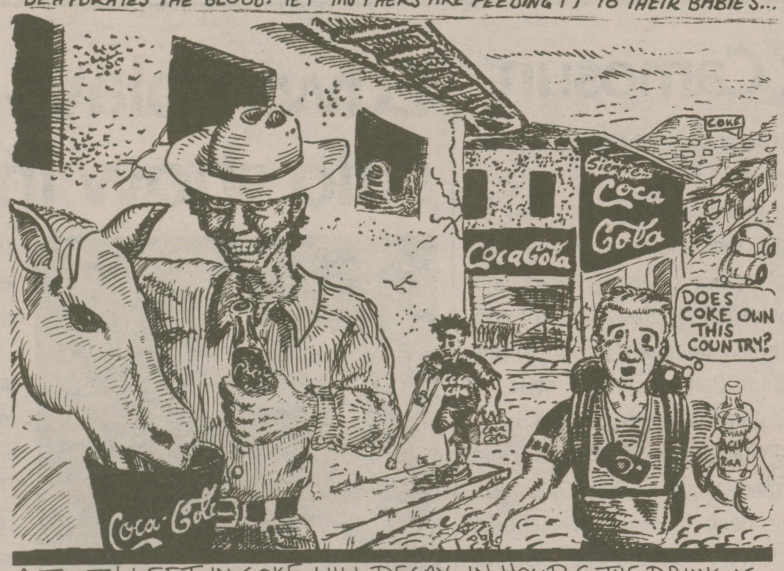


*"In 2025, U.S. AEROSPACE FORC
CAPITALIZING ON EMERGING
U.S. AIR FORCE IN 1997. WA
BECOME PART OF A NATIONAL
DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIO
MODIFICATION CAN PROVIDE BA
NEVER BEFORE IMAGINED." (FOR D

THE UNSTATED AGENDA M
RAINSTORMS OVER PR
OF APEC OR THE W

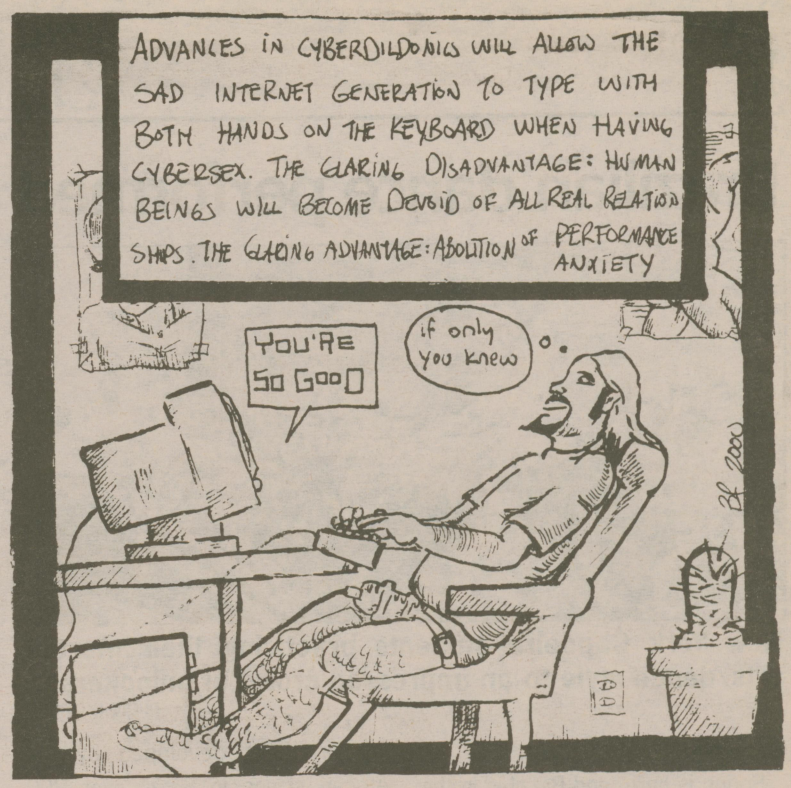
LLY ATOMIZED.
LOCKED IN OUR APART-
G LIFE, SHOPPING THROUGH

CLEAN DRINKING WATER IS HARD TO COME BY IN SOME "DEVELOPING" COUNTRIES, BUT COCA-COLA RARELY IS. IN MANY PLACES, A BOTTLE OF COKE IS CHEAPER THAN THE SAME AMOUNT OF WATER, AND IS A DIETARY STAPLE. BUT LIKE ALL CAFFEINATED DRINKS, IT INHIBITS KIDNEY FUNCTIONS AND DEHYDRATES THE BLOOD. YET MOTHERS ARE FEEDING IT TO THEIR BABIES...

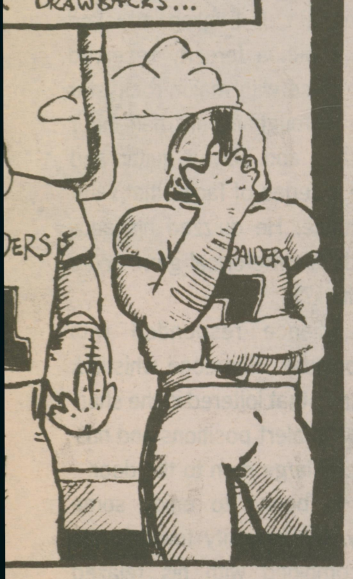


A TOOTH LEFT IN COKE WILL DECAY IN HOURS. THE DRINK IS SAID TO WORK AS A 98% EFFECTIVE SPERMICIDE. BUT THESE FACTS WON'T STOP THE CORPORATION FROM ATTAINING ITS GOAL OF MAKING THE LIQUID MORE ACCESSIBLE THAN WATER.

ADVANCES IN CYBERDILDONICS WILL ALLOW THE SAD INTERNET GENERATION TO TYPE WITH BOTH HANDS ON THE KEYBOARD WHEN HAVING CYBERSEX. THE GLARING DISADVANTAGE: HUMAN BEINGS WILL BECOME DEVOID OF ALL REAL RELATIONSHIPS. THE GLARING ADVANTAGE: ABOLITION OF PERFORMANCE ANXIETY



IKE CAMERON is
EPSI SHIRT ON
T HIS HIGH SCHOOL.
PORATE SPONSORSHIP
EEDED FUNDS ARE
. DRAWBACKS...

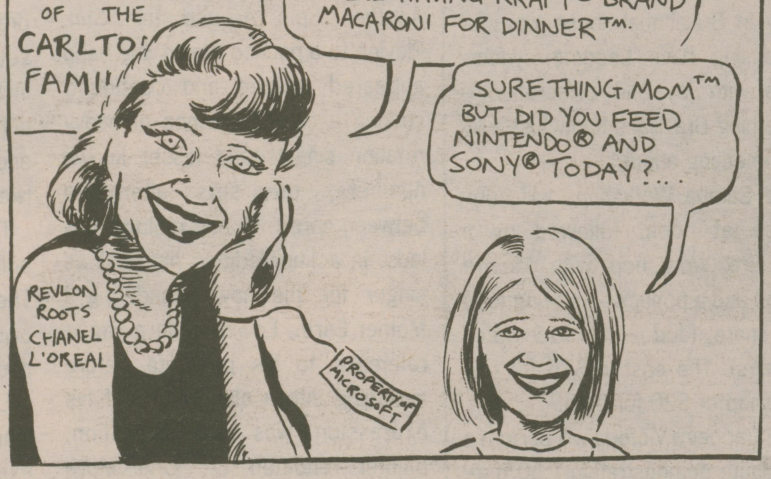


SOON TO PROVE REAL BRAND-NAME LOYALTY, PEOPLE WILL NOT ONLY ADVERTISE CORPORATE LOGOS ON THEIR CLOTHES, BUT WILL NAME THEIR **CHILDREN** AFTER THEIR FAVOURITE FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES, WHOLE FAMILIES WILL HAVE THEIR OWN CORPORATE SPONSORS.

BURGER KING IS THE PROUD CORPORATE SPONSOR OF THE CARLTON FAMILY

NIKE® CALL YOUR SISTERS WAL-MARTINA® AND PEPSINA® WE'RE HAVING KRAFT® BRAND MACARONI FOR DINNER™.

SURE THING MOM™ BUT DID YOU FEED NINTENDO® AND SONY® TODAY?...



FARM ANIMALS EXIST IN FORMS NEVER INTENDED BY NATURE, AND OFTEN LIVE AS PARTS OF A MACHINE. FARM SALMON IN BC ARE AN EXAMPLE: A BREED DEVELOPED IN WEST VANCOUVER LABS GROWS TEN TIMES FASTER THAN WILD SALMON. CHICKENS HAVE ALSO BEEN "MODIFIED." TWO DISTINCT STRAINS EXIST: ONE PRODUCES MEAT; THE OTHER PUMPS OUT EGGS. THE SCRAWNY, "USELESS" MALES OF THE EGG-LAYING BREED ARE GROUND UP INTO ANIMAL FEED.

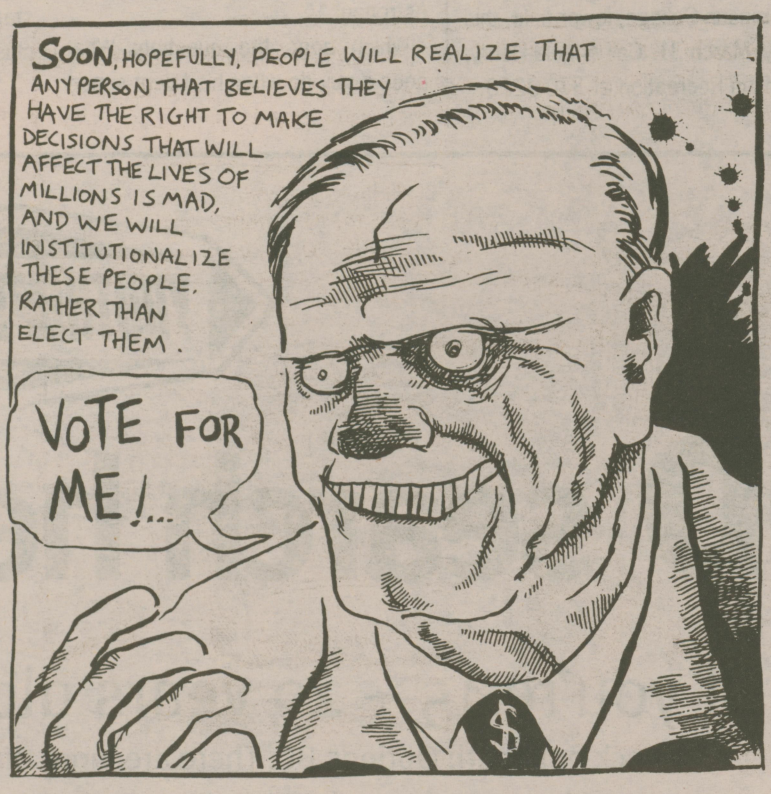
INDUSTRIAL "CHICKENS" EAT HORMONES, DRUGS AND EVEN CRUSHED-UP CHICKEN.
ARTIFICIAL LIGHT CYCLES SPEED UP MEAT AND EGG PRODUCTION.
BEAKS ARE BURNT OFF SO CHICKENS CAN'T PUT EACH OTHER OUT OF THEIR MISERY...
KILL ME NOW...
WE ARE EATING THE WINGS OF TWENTY-FIVE CHICKENS!
EACH WING IS FULL OF GROWTH HORMONES THAT GO STRAIGHT TO YOUR TESTICLES!

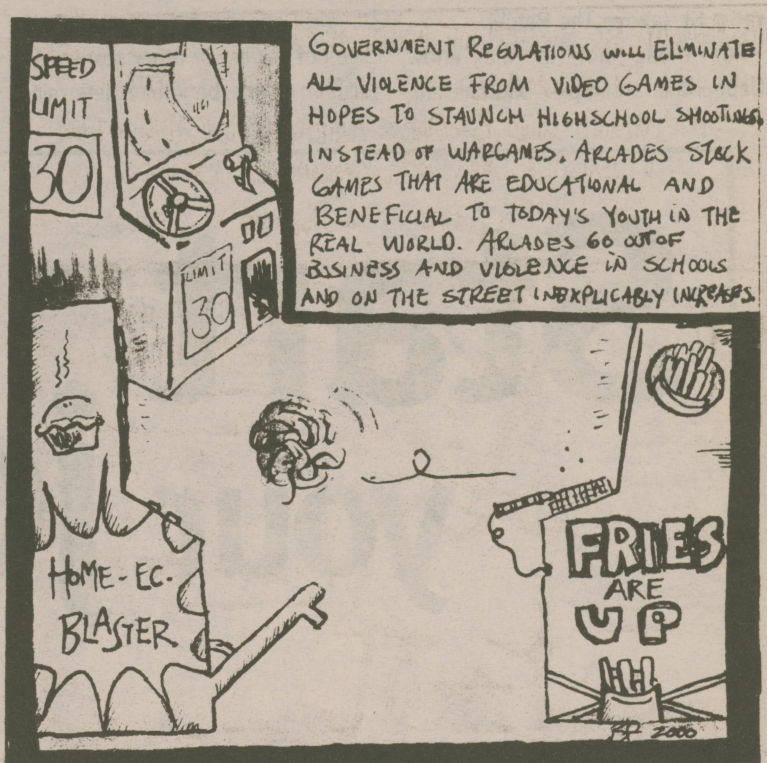
WHAT FURTHER TORTURED LIFE FORMS WILL HUMANS CREATE IN THE AGE OF GENETIC MANIPULATION? MAYBE NIKE, AIMING TO ESCAPE ACCUSATIONS OF CRUELTY TO PEOPLE, IS ALREADY WORKING ON HUMAN-CHIMPANZEE CROSSES TO WORK IN SWEATSHOPS.

NTS INTO THE ATMOSPHERE. IT
PEOPLE WILL LIVE IN CITIES
NE THE INCREASED SMOG THIS
EN BARS" THAT CATER TO THE
OSING MOST OF THE POLLUTION?

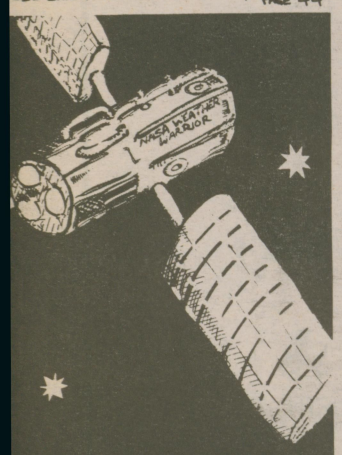
HE SEAS ARE DEAD, THE AIR IS
T, MACHINES WILL KEEP THEM ALIVE?

SOON, HOPEFULLY, PEOPLE WILL REALIZE THAT ANY PERSON THAT BELIEVES THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE DECISIONS THAT WILL AFFECT THE LIVES OF MILLIONS IS MAD, AND WE WILL INSTITUTIONALIZE THESE PEOPLE, RATHER THAN ELECT THEM.



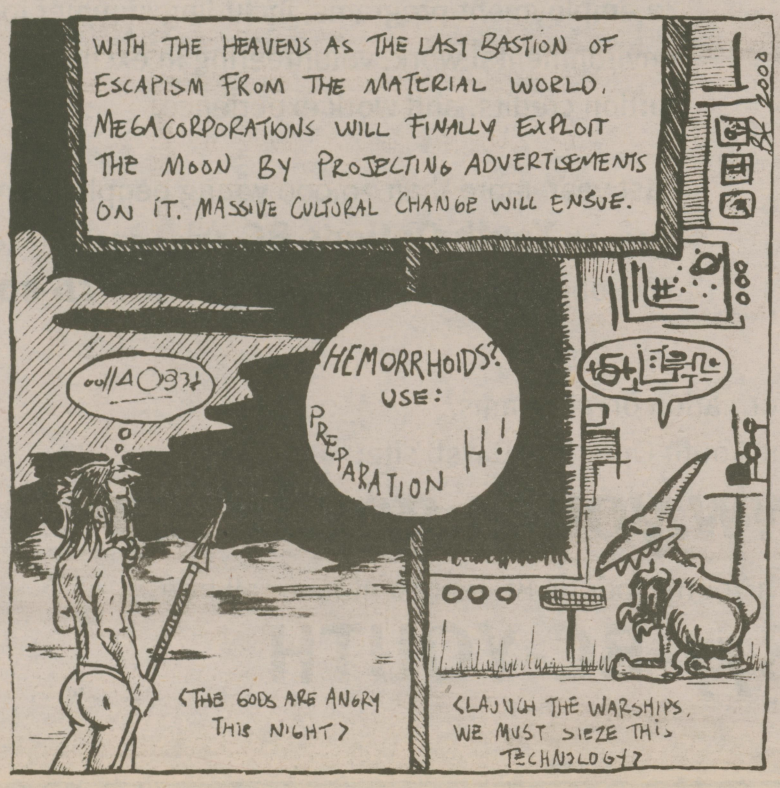

SPEED LIMIT 30
GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS WILL ELIMINATE ALL VIOLENCE FROM VIDEO GAMES IN HOPES TO STAUNCH HIGHSCHOOL SHOOTINGS. INSTEAD OF WARGAMES, ARCADES STOCK GAMES THAT ARE EDUCATIONAL AND BENEFICIAL TO TODAY'S YOUTH IN THE REAL WORLD. ARCADES GO OUT OF BUSINESS AND VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS AND ON THE STREET INEXPLICABLY INCREASES.
HOME-EC. BLASTER
FRIES ARE UP
HA!

N 'OWN THE WEATHER' BY
NOLOGIES,' PROCLAIMS... THE
EATHER WARS 'WILL LIKELY
RITY POLICY. WITH BOTH
APPLICATIONS... WEATHER
SPACE DOMINANCE TO A DEGREE
SEE EARTH ISLAND JOURNAL, SPRING 2000 PAGE 44



E TO CREATE LOCALIZED
TS OUTSIDE MEETINGS

WITH THE HEAVENS AS THE LAST BASTION OF ESCAPISM FROM THE MATERIAL WORLD, MEGACORPORATIONS WILL FINALLY EXPLOIT THE MOON BY PROJECTING ADVERTISEMENTS ON IT. MASSIVE CULTURAL CHANGE WILL ENSUE.



SO THERE YOU HAVE IT, THE FUTURE AS WE SEE IT. BUT OF COURSE, IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THAT WAY... NOTHING IS SET IN STONE. THE MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATION IS ONLY 50 YEARS OLD, HUMANS HAVE BEEN AROUND QUITE A BIT LONGER. MAYBE WE'LL OUTLIVE THE DEVELOPMENTS WE'VE DESCRIBED HERE, IF WE STRUGGLE TOGETHER, FOR A BETTER TOMORROW!

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE...
TOGETHER WE MUST OVERTHROW THE FORCES OF EVIL.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE LAWYERS ARRIVE.
HEDSTATIC

NICKOTeen '00 — Tim Harvey '99 — BRIAN FUKUSHIMA 2000

GET THIS ON THE WEB HTTP://GO.to/SimpleBrian

Brazilian dance performed at Camosun

New York Capoeira students practicing their martial arts/dance style to an impressed crowd of onlookers.
photo provided

BY JONATHAN ROTHMAN

Spring is here, and Brazil is in the air. That's right, Brazil.

For those who have never seen it before (and even for those who have), the Afro-Brazilian dance workshops led by Aurinha de Jesus and Mestre Marcos Barrão are astounding displays of joyous expressive dance. Participants recall last November's Samba and Capoeira workshops as a fun and energetic time for all.

De Jesus has been dancing since age five. She teaches all kinds of dance classes in Vancouver. From Samba to Frevo and Afoxé to Maracatu, all of them are traditional dances from the northeast of Brazil. De Jesus' classes are taught at her husband, Mestre Marcos Barrão's Axé Capoeira Academy in Vancouver. De Jesus' Victoria workshops will take place on Saturday, April 1 at Axé Capoeira Victoria, 719 Yates St. (above The Patch).

For those not in the know, Capoeira is a complex and challenging art form developed by the African slaves in Brazil over 300 years ago. The slaves hid their self-defence movements in a cloak of playful dance, a form of expression kept in the art form today.

Capoeira is more than martial arts or dance, it is a game with an objective of trickery and self-expression, a dialogue of movement set to music.

The sounds are supplied by the vital instruments of contemporary Capoeira; the pandeiro, or tambourine, the atabaque, or conga-like drum, and the berimbau, a wooden bow (pau or verga) strung with a steel wire (arame) which is plucked by a coin or stone (vintem or dobrão), hit with a piece of dowel-sized stick (vareta, baqueta) and muted off the abdomen by a gourd (cabaça).

These instruments guide the songs of Capoeira, which sing of many things – great mestres who taught Capoeira, historic battles, the lives of slaves, or other stories. The rhythm of the berimbau determines the style of game the two players in the roda will play.

The games may be slow, and full of low movements and ritualistic interplay; this is Angola, traditional Capoeira. Often, the games of contemporary Capoeira played in the Regional (hey-jee-oh-nal) style, a faster game devloped in the 1930s, only a couple of years after Capoeira was made legal in Brazil, the form having been outlawed in the time after slavery from the late 1880s to around 1932.

Capoeira classes are taught in Victoria by instructors Amarelo and Testinha under the guidance of Mestre Barrao; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 7-9 p.m. at Axé Capoeira Victoria, 719 Yates St.

Samba dances, like Maracatu, Frevo, Maculele and others come from the same place and culture as Capoeira. Poverty is such a powerful reality, a part of everyday life for so many in Brazil that these ways of expressing have become synonymous with joy and celebration – something Brazilians know just a little something about.

The Samba Workshops will commence at noon, followed by a Capoeira Workshop with Mestre Barrao and a potluck – so bring food and share food – at 719 Yates (upstairs). The cost is $15 for one workshop or $20 for both.

Axé Capoeira Victoria will perfom a 20 minute demonstration,1:50 p.m. at Camosun College, lower field, this Friday, March 31. Call Angela Henry, Camosun Recreation at 370-3220.

Edwin plays his first solo show in Victoria

Edwin performed at Vertigo Monday March 28.
photo by Tanya Inglis

BY JOHN W. MCFETRICK

Super hunk/rock star Edwin filled the house with bright green laser light, fog and cheers Monday night in support of his debut album *Another Spin Around the Sun*. Playing to a packed crowd, the band appeared relaxed and confident, striking a careful balance of heavy rotation singles and lesser known numbers, the sets alternated between hard rock and melodic ballads. In acknowledging his past as singer for the now floundering I Mother Earth, Edwin made a vague reference to his past life before launching into a clumsy and, if his expression was any indication, painful rendition of "One More Astronaut."

Which begs the question: What does a guy do when his talent supersedes that of his former colleagues? His well paced show provided the answer.

By way of introduction, Edwin peeled out of his shirt to reveal meaty arms ringed with heavy black tattoos. The fans went wild. The panting swarm, pressed against the restraining barrier, yelped. The star, grinning lasciviously, shifted into high gear with the spacey "Hang Ten."

Space, travel, cosmic adventure and snow boarding featured large as themes throughout the show. If his message was Live Loud, Edwin and band proved that there is much more than being Earth bound.

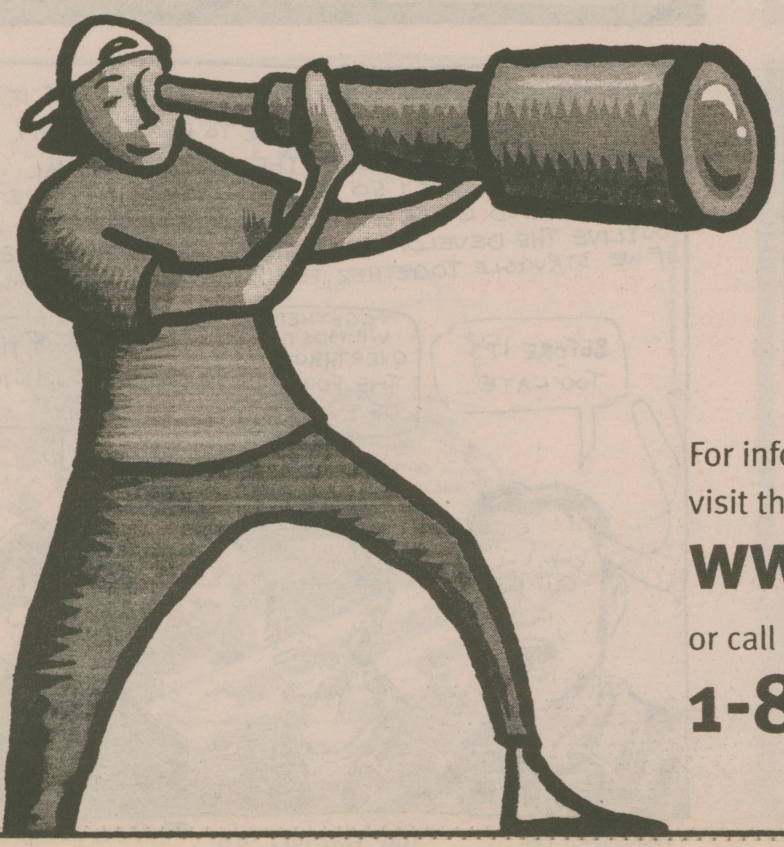
Opening act J. English attacked the stage with a ferocity reserved only for those with major rock star dreams. Throughout his half hour set, J sang and played guitar and included a series of faces that were unforgettable. He quizzed his audience with this rhetorical gem: "Who likes to fuck?"

The audience responded with polite applause. Someone whistled. The security that loitered in the shadows leapt to alert positions and hustled several large men to the door.

Edwin is bound to enjoy some longevity. His intensity towards the music combined with his relaxed stage presence provided fans with a classic small venue rock show.

Start your job search here

YOUTHOPTIONS BC



If you're 15 – 29 years old,
check out Youth Options BC. There are more than 12 employment programs, including summer jobs, environmental work, volunteering in exchange for tuition credits, and work experience.

Last year, more than 20,000 young people found a position through **Youth Options BC**; this year, you could too. The jobs go fast, so start your **job search now!**

For information on programs,
visit the Youth Options BC web site:
www.youth.gov.bc.ca
or call a Youth Options BC representative toll free:
1-877-BC-YOUTH

BRITISH COLUMBIA
Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology
HonourableGraemeBowbrick,
Minister Responsible for Youth

Everything's going Green

BY KRISTIN FRONEMAN

All is quiet except for the click of a cue stick as it hits a stray ball. People sit at the round bar with its trim of stained glass, sip pints of frothy dark ale and watch a man on stage read from a piece of paper clutched in his hand. He doesn't look up. He just reads the words one after the other, without taking a breath, without accenting his speech. He is done. Polite applause follows as he makes his way back to his seat.

The master of ceremonies, wearing one of those pointy party hats, clears his throat.

"That was nice," he says swiping his brow. "Now get ready for our next contestant. He's the beat freak of the week. The poetry slam king himself. Give it up for the gelatinous Lobster Boy."

The crowd explodes in applause.

What was once quiet now becomes boisterous. The boys at the back rack up for the next game of eight ball. The patrons at the bar whoop it up in between gulps of ale.

The man they call Lobster Boy leaps on stage wearing his painter's overalls.

Pulling the mike to his mouth, he drawls out each syllable, his voice taking the tone of a high-spirited evangelist addressing his congregation.

"Dream wea-ver, ssssscully, mer-man, pole-faced, gum——bo."

Then he weaves the words into a long stream of consciousness, evoking images of over-stuffed crustaceans and bad '70s songs. Recurring words and themes such as yellow custard, tantric mermaid, monkey boy, Gilligan's Island and gelatinous come up in his speech. These are expressions the audience has heard before and they lap it up along with their beer.

After all is said and done, the poetry slam winner is announced. It is once again the king, Roy Green, winner of a free hour of shiatsu massage.

No stranger to the stage, Green, 41, has won a prize at every poetry slam held at the James Bay Inn (JBI) since the event started in October.

Anyone who can think up a poem with the five words provided can perform in the slam, says Charles Tidler, a local playwright and regular judge of the JBI event. It's like karaoke, except the reader makes up the lyrics to the song.

And as an experienced slammer, Green has little difficulty in weaving words such as heliotrope and crepuscular into a colourful diatribe.

"It's his nervy spontaneity. He puts an edge to it," Tidler explains. "[Green] gets top marks for performance. He is not afraid of the mic."

Green, who was born in Alberta and grew up in Victoria, has been weaving words since his days studying applied communications at Camosun College.

"I wanted to be on radio," he says.

Instead, he worked briefly as a community newspaper reporter and studied photography at Vancouver's Emily Carr College of Art. That's where he was introduced to the world of performance art, which blends music, spoken word, theatre and visual imagery into a thick, often sticky goo; at least it does in Green's performances.

While at Emily Carr, Green started performing in a number of acts such as Jiswopp, where he and fellow performers dressed up in costumes and played improvised music on homemade instruments while having film projected on them.

"We did some shows and got into this mythical culture," he says. "In one review, the person wrote that if we had poetry/spoken word, it would work better."

Green took the reviewer's advice and started using poetry with the act the Celebrity Drunks. He gained even more notoriety in Vancouver as a spoken word artist as the duo Roy and Greg, which ended up recording the underground hit *Two Piece Plastic Buddha*.

In 1990, Green and Calgary/Vancouver-based wordsmith Sherri D. Wilson travelled to Boulder, Colorado to attend a five-week poetry and meditation intensive at the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at Naropa Institute, where the duo went to a workshop led by Buddhist beat god Allen Ginsberg.

"It was poetry morning, noon and night. We met crazy people from all over the world. William Burroughs was there." Green says in reference to the painter and author of famous books *Naked Lunch* and *Junky*.

And like Burroughs, Green has also been inspired to pick up a paintbrush.

Upon his return to Victoria in the late '80s, Green added painting to his list of artistic endeavours.

"It was rewarding, frustrating and necessary – like exercise. I fell in love with the materials and the process," he says.

With many gallery shows under his belt, including a 1995 international painting symposium in Baie Ste. Paul, Quebec where Green sold and showed his work, the consummate artist exhibits everything from pet portraits to collages incorporating Buddha.

But Green has never given up on spoken word and has gone on to record such rants as the long-winded "Wake Up" and "Roar Bachelor God," which can be heard on a cd put out by wacky songsters the Showbiz Giants.

More recently, he has published a small yet vivid collection of his poetry, including the mantra *I am the Lobster Boy*, published by Victoria's Fine Word Chapbooks. And he has just finished an art performance at Open Space Gallery as one half of the Hermaphrodite Brotherhood, now infamous in Victoria for mixing words with crazy antics such as pulling the stuffing out of a toy lobster and squirting gravy all over the floor.

Green reads from his recently published chapbook *New Sexy Jumbo Galore*.
photo by Paul Scrivener

And it is all this experience and all these recurring themes that Green brings to the stage at the James Bay Inn poetry slam.

"He is one of Victoria's longest running gags," says fellow spoken word artist and occasional slam judge Paul McKinnon, otherwise known as M.C. Kinnon. "It's data reconstruction of language. He's been doing it for years. It's the same shtick, but it's still working."

Green says it's all part of the act.

"I always have stuff floating around in my brain," he says. "But I always use certain phrases, themes and words that occur. There are those one million dollar words, such as gelatinous, that are going to evoke a response."

And so far the audience is buying, if the laughter and cheering at the James Bay Inn poetry slam is any indication.

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Impotus brings Japanese dance styles to UVic

BY SCOTT ROBERTS

Chris Johnston has been experimenting with Japanese styles of dance for about a year now. Working towards his BFA in Design, *Impotus* is the culmination of a year's worth of effort and also a directed study towards his degree.

"Buto is very absurdist and emotional," says Emma Routledge, the stage manager for *Impotus*, "it expresses energy and feelings through movement."

This idea fits well with the plot. The play focuses on the title character who is confronted with his own memories and the realities of the cycle of abuse that he has faced in his life.

Elizabeth Dent, one of the actors in *Impotus*, mentioned that "the audience sees the point at which *Impotus* realizes the existence of that cycle, which is quite amazing."

The Buto dance style meshes extremely well with this piece, not only because of the nature of the emotional content, but also because the abstracted style of dance allows room for audience interpretation. The viewer has the opportunity to take what they can, and possibly gain insight into their own lives and how cycles of abuse relate to them.

If you haven't seen any of the productions that go on, either as directed studies or through SATCO (the student alternative theatre company) this might be a good place to start.

Aside from the fact that these shows are entirely student produced – so you should support them anyways – the directors and actors are given a greater degree of freedom, with both the plot and the themes chosen to build plays around.

Not only does this give the campus community the opportunity to see great alternative theatre (previous shows have gone on to the Fringe and the Firehall theatre in Vancouver) but it's almost free. All shows are by donation or without charge.

Impotus runs March 30 at noon and the 31st at 12:45 in the MacIntyre Studio Theatre in the Phoenix Building

Cds run the gamut of styles and sounds

2Pac + Outlawz
Still I Rise
Universal

BY DAVE ISRAELIEVITCH

Yet another piece of evidence contributing to my theory that Pac is alive and well – he's probably just in Cuba or something. It's amazing how prolific one man can be after dying. Not that he ever really slacked or anything. As with most of what he's done, this shit is tight.

Now, the Outlawz have been around a while, but this is the first thing they've dropped since Fatal's album a couple years back. There are very few beats on this album that don't move me. In fact, my only complaint is the repetitive subject matter. (One thing to say about this album is that it's optimistic – a thing Pac never failed to be). At least it's optimistic, though. That's one thing Pac never failed to be.

Certain things did piss me off, though. They had the nerve to call one of their songs "Keep Your Head Up II," 'cause it's damn hard to live up to classics like that, which it doesn't.

This album was a pleasant surprise, though, 'cause it's hard to recapture a sound that has gone out of style, but the Outlawz did a good job.

They don't cheat you either, as Pac can be found rhyming on all but the last song. In the end, it really is the production that seals this project.

Some people might not dig this sound, and the lyrics aren't groundbreaking, but if you're a Pac fan, then you know what to expect. They could have come a whole lot weaker.

The Suicide Machines
the Suicide Machines
Universal

BY SHAUNA KIRBY

Unlike The Suicide Machines' previous cds, *Battle Hymns* and *Destruction By Definition*, the Detroit boys' new self-titled cd has a very eclectic sound. It still has the same ska-punk leanings but this time there's more punk mixed with pop beats as well as orchestral aspects in some of the songs. Just because the cd isn't very long (a whole 33:49 minutes worth) doesn't mean that the band has come up short, the disc is jam-packed with hard hitting tunes and fun original lyrics.

At first it took me awhile to figure out that in their debut song, "Sometimes I Don't Mind," they're actually talking about a dog. You'd never know just listening to some of the lyrics: "There's something there inside your eyes, lets me know you'd never lie..." The other song that really grabbed my attention was the song "I Hate Everything!" It's sort of like Sublime meets Limp Bizkit. It's a perfect song for when you want to rip off someone's head. Even my mom liked the band's cover of Lynne Anderson's "I Never Promised You A Rose Garden." Then again, she's also the one that bought me the Blink182 cd because she liked how they ran down the street naked in their video.

Overall I'd have to say that this is a kick-ass cd for anyone who needs a quick pick me up.

Engelbert Humperdinck
The Dance Album
interhit records

BY MEESHA CHAN

Yes, this really is a review to an Engelbert Humperdinck dance cd. Usually associated with green '70s shag, wood panelling, smoky sex and alcohol-infused living rooms, Engelbert Humperdinck has updated his look and sound to end ma & pa record collection obscurity.

The new sound takes both the man and the music to a new level. Dance, dance and more heart-felt dance. Brain-numbing dance. He takes his classics ("After the Lovin'," "Spanish Eyes" and "Quando..."), and adds beats and synthesizers, a new dance vocal and what can only be described as pure sass.

This album has been described as: "sassy," "this is such bizarre music," "Engelbert is so... he's got hairplugs for sure," "his voice is a little bit smoky, a little bit sexy and a little bit evil," "this music makes me want to dance," "Goddamn."

In the (bizarre) case that one version of "Quando..." is not enough for any EH enthusiast, this cd sports the Spanish mix of "Cuando, Cuando, Cuando." Words actually fail me. After one listen this music will enter (and stay) in your system for days and days, until it has worked its course.

Complete with four bonus tracks, including a morning mix of "Mano a Mano" and a Spanglish mix of "Spanish Eyes," this cd gives the proud owner some serious bang for her/his buck. There is *no* going back.

win

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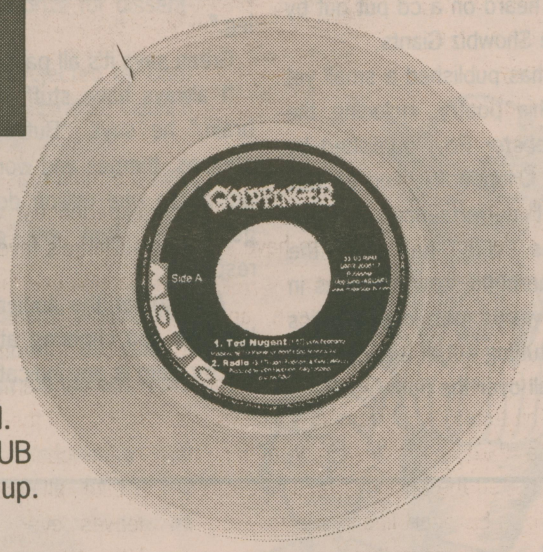

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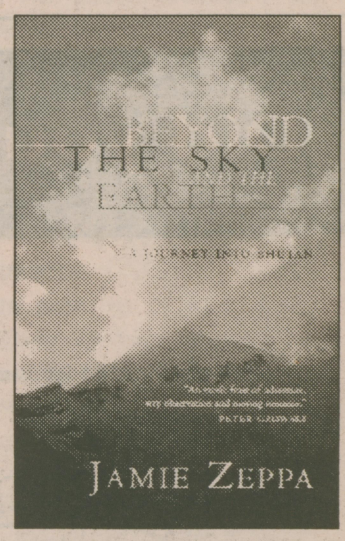

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Support your local neighbourhood superhero

BY DENA VANDALFSEN

He gets to the game early so he has enough time to get dressed and do some stretching. He thinks about conserving energy so he doesn't peter out at the end of the night. He signs autographs and after the game the first thing he wants to do is hop into the shower and wash off all the sweat.

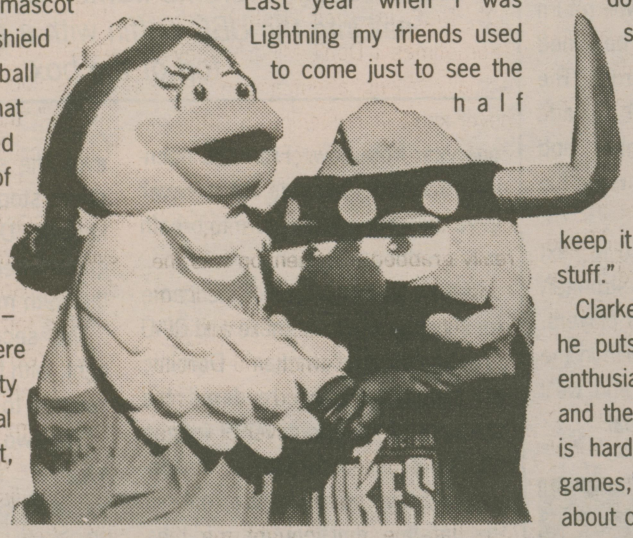
Ryan Clarke has donned the Thunder costume for all but two athletic events this season. That's a better average than many of the varsity athletes.

Clarke is originally from Vancouver but his family moved to Seattle when he started high school, but found his way back to Canada for university.

In highschool, Clarke was a "jack of all sports" but has settled on being involved with the UVic triathalon club.

Even over the telephone, Clarke's voice exudes energy and in person at 5'9," with short blonde hair and wearing a yellow golf shirt that mirrors his welcoming smile, you guess that Clarke is an active individual.

How do you end up being Thunder, the big, multi-coloured mascot with the sword and shield you see at basketball games? For Clarke that was a two-tiered process. In January of 1999 the current Thunder tore his ACL while doing the splits – this job is dangerous – and because they were involved in the varsity council of the Physical Education department, Clarke and his friend Mike Grace were approached and asked to be the replacements. Why two people you ask? Does anyone remember the men's Canada West basketball finals last year? Eric Hinrichsen and company were playing the University of Alberta Golden Bears for a play-off spot. Now do you remember some crazy guy running around with Thunder in blue spandex? The spandex guy is called Lightning, and Clarke was the guy under the face paint, while Grace had the more anonymous job of Thunder.



At a game, one of Clarke's friends sitting in the stands heard the person in front of him say, "That guy is definitely gay," in reference to Lightning. "I think people judge too soon," said Clarke. "This is a student job. Sometimes it's tough and sometimes it's easy, I come out regardless."

But it wasn't all peaches and cream for the seemingly impervious mascot.

"Lightning was a painful month," said Clarke. "Because the Lightning costume has no mask, people are looking right at you. I think that's why most mascots have huge headpieces, so people aren't looking right into your face. It takes guts to put on the Lightning suit. I took a lot of flack, hissing and booing, from the crowd." Clarke and Grace started out as volunteers but after the third week they decided to see if they could get some cheques. They got what they wanted, but Clarke still refers to it as "blood money."

"Last year when I was Lightning my friends used to come just to see the half time shows. Now as Thunder, it's just a job."

Last year Clarke as Lightning and Thunder went into Felicita's to have some pictures taken. "I wasn't 19 yet and I didn't get IDed. We had our pictures taken with two ladies and they were lovin' it. We wanted to get them published at the Varsity Banquet slide show but that didn't happen. I don't think they liked the association with alcohol."

Clarke's first appearances as Thunder were not at athletic events. In August and September, Thunder made appearances at campus picnics and events for the UVSS and Ancillary Services. Clarke has also accompanied Vikes athletes and Victoria police officers to Victoria area schools, a service which is provided to give students positive role models.

When Clarke first started as Thunder he took the costume home to get acclimatized to it.

"The feet are my favourite. I wore them around like slippers. It's like walking on big pillows."

Clarke believes that when the Thunder costume was first made, nobody thought the mascot would be moving around at all.

The eyeholes are possibly the worst feature of the suit. There are three mesh-covered quarter-sized holes in the ridge of Thunder's helmet. "You can't see or read out of them," said Clarke. "I can't see what I'm doing when I'm signing autographs and I have to constantly look down to make sure I'm not stepping on any kids.

"The costume requires maintenance. You sweat in there and after every game you have to clean it and spray it down. You have to keep it clean or it'll start growing stuff."

Clarke gets a workout everytime he puts on the Thunder suit. His enthusiasm all depends on the day and the mood. "The regular season is hard when I do back to back games," said Clarke. "I have to think about conserving my energy for the later game. I prefer the play-offs when it's just one game and I can go all out."

Thunder is mostly found inside at the basketball games, but you'll also find him on the field hockey turf and at Centennial stadium for soccer and rugby games.

"It's a very different environment outside," said Clarke. "It's not as hot and humid, loud or confined. There is more freedom outside."

How relevant are mascots to athletics? "It really depends on the crowd," said Clarke. If it's a good game and there is a big crowd with lots of energy, you have some power. I'll hold the sign up that says, 'GO VIKES GO!' and people cheer. That makes a difference."

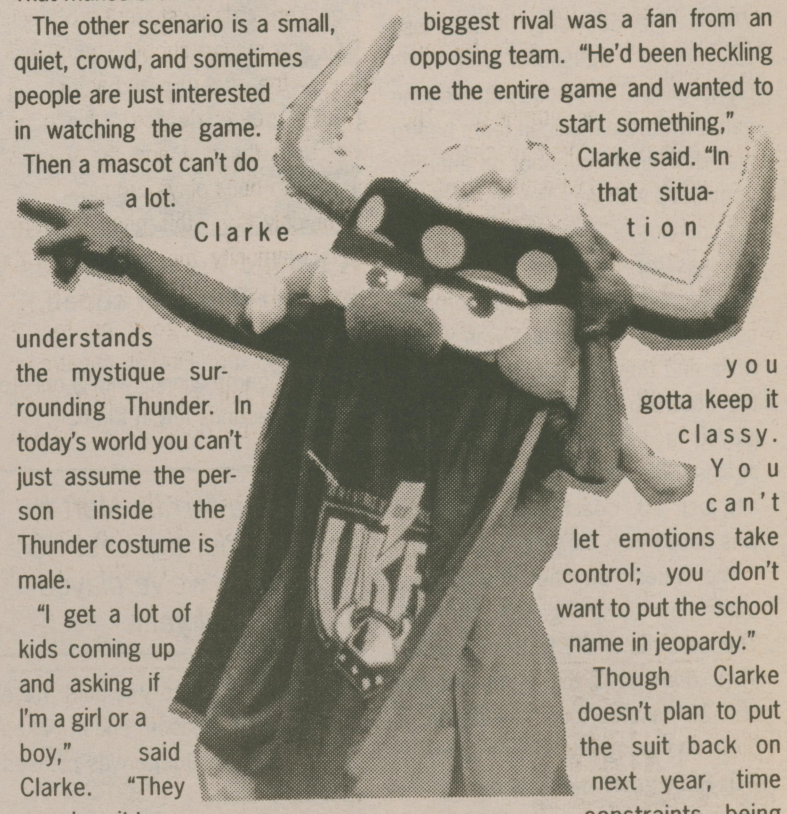
The other scenario is a small, quiet, crowd, and sometimes people are just interested in watching the game. Then a mascot can't do a lot.

Clarke understands the mystique surrounding Thunder. In today's world you can't just assume the person inside the Thunder costume is male.

"I get a lot of kids coming up and asking if I'm a girl or a boy," said Clarke. "They say show it to us. Prove it to us." Clarke prefers to keep Thunder gender neutral in order for all the kids to have a role model.

Somewhere inbetween appearances at high schools and weekend sporting events, Clarke finds time to hit the books. Thunder's alter-ego is a third-year kinesiology major. He tested the business faculty, but realized his heart lies in sports.

Clarke says that he enjoys entertaining with kids. "The great thing about kids, is that they have no inhibitions," said Clarke. "They want to try on the gloves and the boots. After a long day, it's fun to just sit and wrestle for a bit."



While Thunder doesn't have the supreme power of choosing who gets the free pizza at basketball games, he does have fun with the crowd. "I always try to see if I can get the kids to take an article of clothing off."

So, the next time you're at a game and hungry, show Thunder some skin.

Clarke has never gone head to head with another mascot. His biggest rival was a fan from an opposing team. "He'd been heckling me the entire game and wanted to start something," Clarke said. "In that situation you gotta keep it classy. You can't let emotions take control; you don't want to put the school name in jeopardy."

Though Clarke doesn't plan to put the suit back on next year, time constraints being the main reason, he won't forget the experiences.

Clarke's favourite mascots are the San Diego Padres Chicken and the Charlotte Hornets Ball-Head. "[The Ball-Head] does flips on a mini trampoline and amazing acrobatics. I like to see all the different skills brought to the job."

Like all good mascots, Clarke leaves every conversation with a little characteristic wisdom.

"Remember on any given day that there is a person in there, working as hard as the players and heckling doesn't make it any easier. GO VIKES!"

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Women silver at tournament

BY MAYA SAMSON

The UVic women's soccer team welcomed UBC, SFU and Los Instituto Technologic of Toluca, Mexico to Centennial Stadium this weekend for the 2000 Spring Cup Soccer Tournament.

On Saturday the Vikes took on the untried Mexican squad and easily won with a score of 5-0 to give them a berth in Sunday's final.

Goal scorers for the Vikes included Wanda Rozwadowska, Joann Nash (2), Kristi Egilsson and Erin Glendinning. The Vikes controlled the game while the Mexican team had to play defence throughout its entirety, coming up with very few, if any, scoring chances.

It was the first time the Mexican club had faced such tough competition but the experience was worthwhile and they actually improved as the tournament progressed. They played a tight consolation match against SFU and though they eventually lost 1-0, coach Aldo da Pozzo was happy with their performance.

The Vikes, on the other hand, came out flying against the UBC Thunderbirds in the final on Sunday. They dominated the game for the first 30 minutes, outchancing the T-Birds and going ahead by a score of 2-0. Both goals came about by the amazing efforts of Rozwadowska. With ten minutes left in the half however, the Vikes seemed to let up and that was all it took for UBC forward and Canada West Allstar Rosalyn Hicks to net two goals and tie up the game. Lynsey Burkinshaw scored the Thunderbird's third goal and the eventual game winner with a minute and 30 seconds left in the half.

A behind the net view as Vike player attempts to score against Mexican squad.

martlet photo by Miguel Strother

It was a terrific start to the game, the best 30 minutes we've played all year

Although a victory would have been a nice season ender, Vikes head coach Ian Bridge was pleased with the match.

"It was a terrific start to the game, the best 30 minutes we've played all year. This tournament was a nice way to finish off the season. The weather was great and the team really came together."

For such a young team where 12 out of 19 players began the season as rookies,'coming together' is an important step towards future success. The team's success this past year can in large part be credited to the contributions of fourth year seniors Hilary Scott, Tricia Warrender and Michelle Brown who really stepped up their play. Next year all but three players will return to the squad and they will be joined by three or four good recruits. The team will host the 2000 Canada West playoffs in November and Bridge already has his sights on the competition.

"I'm really looking forward to next year [because] we'll have a stronger, more experienced group of players. We'll have an automatic berth in the Canada West tournament and we'll build a team around that goal."

Men's soccer team captures spring title

BY CRAIG BATTLE

All's well that end's well for the men's Vikes soccer squad.

The Vikes struck gold this past weekend at the annual UVic Spring Cup in a field of B.C. rivals such as Trinity Western, Simon Fraser and UBC. The weekend victory capped a topsy-turvy Vikes season in which a semi-final upset took their hopes for a national championship last November.

"It is good for us to end the season fully prepared and playing well," said Vikes head coach Bruce Wilson.

In their two games, the Vikes first showed dominance over the Spartans of Trinity Western in a 7-0 drubbing, then eeked out a 2-1 win against UBC.

The fired-up Spartans took a taste of what Canada West play will be like, as the Fraser Valley Bible College will join CanWest league play one year from now. From the opening to closing minutes, UVic never gave their opponents room to breath in the Saturday semifinal.

The coveted Spring Cup at Centennial stadium.

martlet photo by Miguel Strother

The Thunderbirds opened the scoring in a tightly played first half off a header from Daniel Haggert. The Vikes had several chances to even the score, like a John Gilbert strike stopped by a sprawling UBC keeper. Dean Anderson tied the game after burying a long pass in the 39th minute.

With two minutes remaining in the second sudden-death overtime frame, John Gilbert struck a nail into the UBC coffin with a goal from the top of the box.

The second half stayed just as tight, with both goalies stealing what seemed to be sure goals.

With two minutes remaining in the second sudden-death overtime frame, Gilbert struck a nail into the UBC coffin with a goal from the top of the box.

Unfortunately, the Spring Cup marks the last event of the Vikes' soccer season as well as the inevitable changing of the guard. The Vikes lose three fifth-year players in Anderson, Brent Garraway and Scott Speed. Wilson said in november that he looks forward to a different team dynamic in the fall.

"It's the beginning of a new era."

Ken Laity won player of the game for UVic, while Vikes goalie and CIAU first-team All-Canadian Dominic Butcher once again rendered the shutout. Throughout 1999 league play, Butcher recorded a season-long shutout streak ending only in the fateful semi-final loss to the Mustangs of Western Ontario.

After the game, Wilson immediately turned his focus on UBC, who had beat SFU 1-0 in penalty kicks in their semifinal.

"We will have to be sharp tomorrow even though we have had UBC's number this year," he said.

The Sunday final proved tough for the Vikes, but the team exhibited superiority over the UBC T-birds once again with a 2-1 overtime victory.

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Athletes honoured

BY DENA CHAN

The 2000 Annual Athletics Award Banquet, held at the Empress Hotel, have come and gone for another year.

Christin Petelski and Graham Cocksedge took home the prestigious Outstanding Athlete of the Year Award, given to students who have participated in international, national or provincial level competition, demonstrated dedication, character and leadership.

Petelski received the award for her dedication and international achievement in swimming, while Graham Cocksedge received it for his impressive feats in the middle distance field.

Neither athlete could attend the banquet due to conflicting competitions. Petelski is at the US Nationals training for the Olympics and Cocksedge is on his way back from the World University Championships in Germany, in which he was accompanied by teammates Bruno Mazzotta and Stephanie Mills.

Lindsay Brooke of women's basketball and John Stamhuis of men's swimming shared the University Sport Award, for outstanding achievements in university competition.

Rower Karen Clark received the Chancellor's Award, for outstanding contribution in and out of the competition venue.

The Varsity Highlight Award was given to eight student athletes who displayed a winning combination of leadership, dedication and community involvement. This year's recipients were Megan Dalziel (basketball), Kristin Taunton (field hockey), Rob Veenhof (soccer), Karen Clark (rowing), Mark Creery, (middle distance), Theresa Robson (volleyball), Tricia Warrender (soccer), and Jason Friessen (volleyball).

The President's Cup was presented to a beaming Aoibhinn Grimes for her field hockey achievements. This award is given to the outstanding student-athlete in fourth or fifth year, who best combines scholastic achievement and athletic ability.

Other season highlights mentioned included Brent Fougner's Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (CIAU), Women's cross country Coach of the Year award, and Graham Cocksedge's CIAU Athlete of the Year title for track & field. Canada West Coach of the Year belongs to soccer coach Bruce Wilson.

Other honourees included rugby player Sarah Hannah, who won the Provost Award for Excellence for a returning student-athlete who best combines athletic and scholastic excellence; Lauren McLean, who captured the Robert T. Wallace Shield for outstanding first-year competition in field hockey; and Jeff Bishop was handed the Outstanding Manager Award for his contribution to the swim team throughout the academic year.

The heart and soul of women's rowing

BY JORDANA FROESE

One of the most consistent and powerful varsity programs at UVic is the women's rowing program.

The women compete locally and nationally in novice, junior varsity and varsity, both on and off the water. Most of the varsity women row in pairs, fours or eights and have worked together for numerous years as teammates, which has led to their success.

However, head coach Rick Crawley feels that much of the team's success can be attributed to Karen Clark, who he considers the team leader and spirit of the Vikes.

"Karen is the heart and soul of our team – our best rower this year. She works hard and leads by example," said Crawley.

Karen graduated from high school in Delta and chose UVic for its outstanding rowing program because of the facilities and coaching. When she first tried out for the Vikes, she surprised a lot of people by securing a varsity seat on the Vikes' team.

According to Crawley, first year rowers rarely make varsity and usually work their way up to the higher boats; Karen was an exception.

"I did junior varsity for the first semester and then made varsity," said Clark. "So I've been rowing for four years for UVic – seven total."

Crawley has always been impressed by Clark's abilities and believes that her optimistic attitude has helped in her success. Karen was named B.C. Rowing athlete of the year in '99 and also placed on Rowing Canada's team of the year.

"She puts a positive spin on everything she does. She's made efforts to take some of my workload and that's very considerate. I'm very appreciative of her work," Crawley said.

Varsity rowers deal with a hectic and tiring schedule that starts early in the morning and most likely ends with a pile of homework. On average Karen spends 12 hours a week on the water and seven indoors, doing erg and weight training.

"Devoting a lot of time to one thing is hard, but at the same time it's rewarding," said Clark of her commitment to the rowing program.

Clark feels that it is important to devote yourself to the team and to set goals for yourself and the team. Crawley feels this is especially important at the higher levels of rowing, where athletes have to work harder to achieve goals. Novices improve rapidly when they first start rowing, but varsity athletes must push themselves even harder to improve on already impressive feats.

"If rowing was an individual sport, I don't think I'd do it."

"I set individual goals within the team," said Clark. "But I like the team aspect, if rowing was an individual sport, I don't think I'd do it."

Clark competed in the Olympic trials this year and came second in the B finals, eighth overall – unfortunately only the top six went to the Olympic camp.

Last year, Clark and teammate Joanna MacArthur swept the under 23 pair and senior pair at the Canada Cup and also beat numerous US teams in the Henley.

Coach Rick Crawley (left) and Karen Clark (right) at the presentation of the Brown Cup to UVic in 1999.

photo provided

This summer she'll be trying out for the national under-23 team and competing again in London, Ontario against the top North American teams.

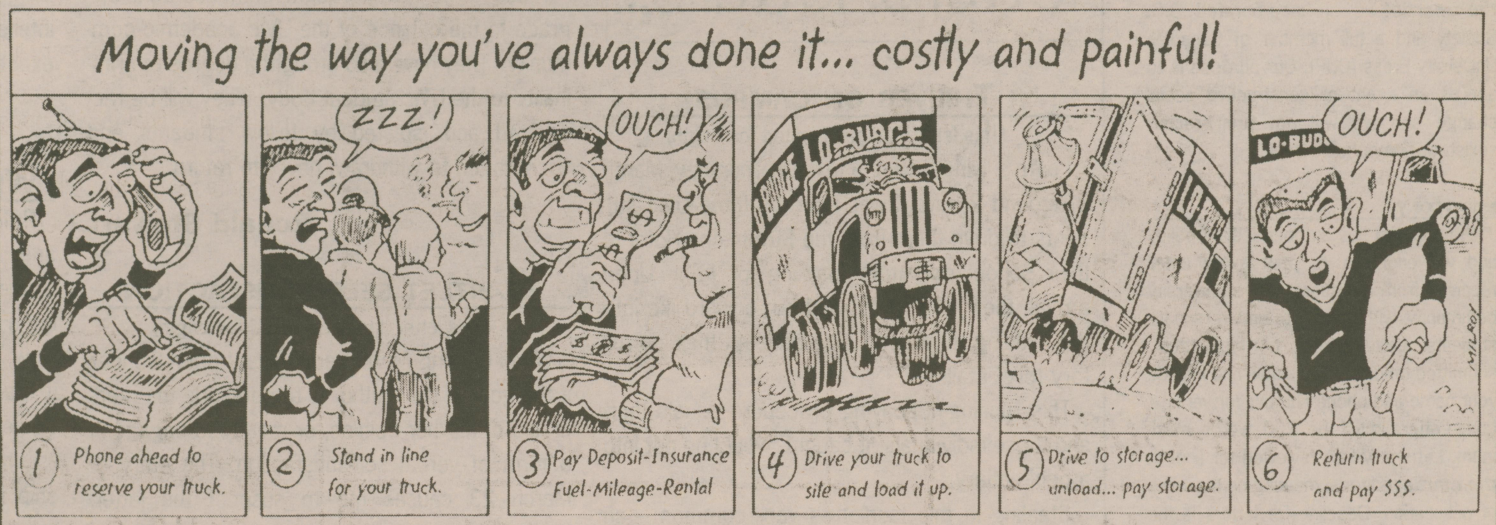
"We think we can go over there and win," said Crawley. "They'll be selecting the under 23s and a number of girls want to be carded."

The Vikes were in Washington this past weekend and the varsity boat lost a close race by a few inches. The loss has only pushed the team to work harder and set higher goals for themselves says Crawley.

Tuesday night at the varsity awards banquet Clark received the Chancellor's Award, for outstanding contribution in and out of the competition venue and providing leadership and vision exemplifying the team. She also received a Varsity Highlight Award presented to eight student-athletes whose positive attitude contributes to sport and academics through leadership, dedication and community involvement.

Karen's team is currently preparing to defend the Brown Cup title, which will be heldon the Gorge Waterway this Sunday, Apr. 1.

STORAGE? It shouldn't be "Ouch!" U-PAK makes it "Aaah!"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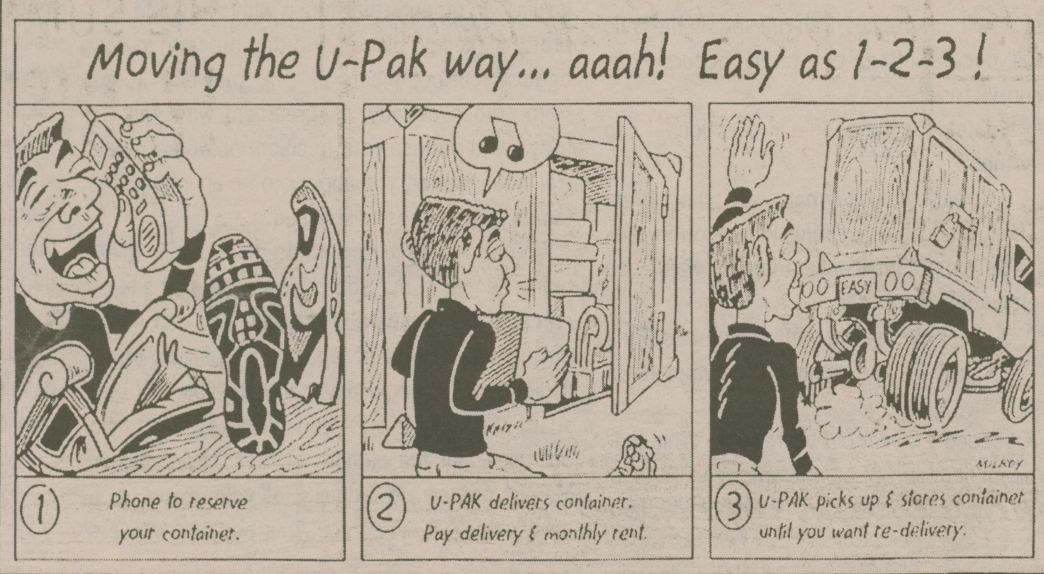
6 Return truck and pay $$$.
OUCH!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letters policy

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The UVSS' club policy arbitrary and inadequate

Complaints about club policy have resulted in scrutiny of UVSS policy

BY MARK REDGWELL

The UVic Students' Society is drafting new club policy which, if adopted, will go even further than what pro-life group Youth Protecting Youth (YPY) attempted to do at the UVSS general meeting in February. Well, sort of.

The main policy at issue – section 3(1) – requires that each club must "have a constitution duly approved by clubs council and ratified by the board of directors, that is in compliance with this and all other policies of the UVSS." The proposed policy would restrict compliance to specific club policy and to "internal" (non-political) policies only.

What does this mean? Well, the economics and commerce course unions will not have to worry about their status being revoked because of the policy that reads "the UVSS is opposed to the WTO, and similar advocates of trade liberalization." Similarly, the Reform club can openly contradict the UVSS policies that support "the Canada Gun Control Coalition's recommendations" and "the decriminalization of cannabis hemp." And, of course, YPY (and religious clubs with pro-life views) could be openly pro-life without violating policies that tell UVic students what their view on abortion should be (I am, by the way, avidly pro-choice).

There are many reasons why the current compliance requirements of s. 3(1) are defective. Obviously, a board is only going to make an issue of section 3(1) when they do not like a club or share its views. As illustrated in the above examples, many clubs are caught by the board's unrealistic interpretation of s. 3(1). Only the board's arbitrary and inconsistent application saves these clubs from the fate of YPY. Ironically, the board's attempt to be fair and democratic has the opposite effect. Arbitrary action of this nature violates principles of justice key to preventing the abuse of power; namely, rule of law and equality of all under the law. (Recall also the refusal of the UVSS to grant club cash to a harmless social club – Alfamastabeta Club.)

The board is mistaken to think club posters cannot contradict UVSS policy. Section 3(1) only requires a club's constitution to comply with UVSS policy. There are no similar requirements for club activities, literature, posters or campaigns. Makes you wonder: what's the point of having written policy if the board can "read in" whatever meaning they want.

Even if s. 3(1) did apply to posters, it is wrong to assume that pro-life posters violate the UVSS "abortion" policy. The policy YPY was supposed to have violated states the UVSS "supports freedom of choice in the matter of abortion." A club can try to convince women not to get an abortion (or that it is wrong) without taking away that freedom of choice. Women are just as free not to be convinced. It is ludicrous to suggest YPY can do anything to take women's choice away. And university harassment policy is the proper mechanism for the hypothetical scenario of a club engaged in harmful behaviours (the proposed club policy includes new provisions to discipline clubs for discrimination or threatening and harassing behaviour).

Ironically, the board could have saved themselves the hassle caused by using this faulty tool. While it's important to point out the hazards of using s. 3(1) as justification for denying a club its status, the board didn't need an excuse to de-ratify YPY. Nothing in the UVSS constitution, by-laws or policies requires the board to give a club status or funding. Simply put, club status and funding is decided at the whim and discretion of the board. This fact, and not the silly s. 3(1) non-compliance argument, is why the board's action was perfectly legal, and why YPY is out of luck.

What reliance on s. 3(1) provides is an illusion of democracy and fairness. This subterfuge, like much of the ensuing debate, masks some important questions. Does the board have a responsibility to guard against majority tyranny within the UVSS? Do board members abuse their power and privilege by refusing to grant status and funding to a club whose politics conflict with their own? Should the board have the discretion to arbitrarily decide who will benefit from a student service?

Given the dominant culture's tendency to oppress the minority, and the power holder's disposition to suppress critics and opponents, the board should ensure it makes allowances within the organization to accommodate differing viewpoints. It is only reasonable that a minority view in the UVSS be allowed the very minor concession of club status and funding (granted, of course, the club has legitimate

funding requests).

While the policy changes suggested by Chris Moon are appropriate and just, they are not enough. The changes will remove the so-called democratic justification used by the UVSS to legitimate its actions. But this change does nothing about the unlimited discretion of the board to selectively bequeath an important student service.

If the board is truly interested in improving clubs policy then they must stop viewing clubs as a privilege granted only to students who kowtow to UVSS politics. There is no need for the UVSS to be so paternalistic.

Club status and funding should be available to all who meet fair, non-political requirements. Grounds for denial or removal of club status should be based on the actions of a club, not its views, and should be just, minimal, consistently applied and set out clearly in policy. Such policy should reflect established standards of justice (like the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms).

It remains to be seen what the UVSS board will do about clubs policy. For now, justice depends upon the discretion of the board.

letters, letters...

THIEVES ON CAMPUS

[This letter has been edited for length]

I earn a living driving a taxi. On Thursday, March 3, around 2 a.m., I was hired by three UVic students to drive them from the Strathcona Hotel to their school dormitory (parking lot #5). Upon arrival, they jumped out and ran coward-like into the building, hoping to hide beneath their dormitory toilet stalls.

This running-not-paying procedure equals theft and these individuals, if caught, would be put into a penitentiary.

Stealing in this fashion is very common – an almost daily occurrence. Cab-running on the UVic campus occurs often, but rarely occurs elsewhere in Victoria.

Unfortunately for the people in question – I can identify them!

(1) A 20-year-old white male with short (very short) dirty-blond hair wearing khaki cotton tank pants. The most significant trademark was a red sore on his left upper cheek.

(2) A 20-year-old female with plain looks, long black straight hair and almost knee high black boots.

(3) A second 20-year-old white male. This individual identified himself as one among millions; in idle cab conversation he said, "I am one in a family of four children – two older and one younger."

These three have brought immeasurable disgrace to the balance of the UVic academic community. They have also brought a degree of criminality to the UVic student body. They will be recognized and isolated by fellow students and encouraged to withdraw, never to return.

Ronald Stewart

MARTLET SELF-SATISFACTION

[This letter has been edited for length]

When reading *Martlet* editorials, I often wonder if the goal of the author is to persuade the readership of his/her opinion, or merely to engage in a form of verbal self-satisfaction. The entry of March 23 causes me to suspect the latter. Issuing arguments that begin with the world is a pretty fucked-up place, and that proceed in castigating your opponents as "evil," may earn kudos from those already in agreement with you. To those who oppose your position, or who are neutral in the matter, you appear to be an implacable fanatic, who is best dismissed.

Whether you like it or not, there are a great many people in our society who see gay sex as immoral. To eliminate this belief, you can either put its proponents up against a wall and shoot (which I doubt you'd advocate), or you can persuade them of the error you perceive. I can't help but think that the authors of the "Heterosexual March" poster are laughing at your expense; if the "irony is lost" on you, it is because you are the joke. Like all cheap cynics, they crave an unintelligent reaction that justifies their feelings of intellectual superiority; in short you gave them exactly what they wanted.

Paul Harder

WHAT REPRESENTS EVERYONE?

Before accusing me of ludicrous assumptions and "downright ignorance," perhaps Bradley Coates and Co. would have benefited from spending a few minutes reading the UVSS Constitution. Now, this mandate is not written in stone, but as it stands the constitution nowhere declares the Society as "representing all students."

I understand the argument that since membership is mandatory, this implicitly should be the mandate of the UVSS; however, I disagree with calls for unrestricted representation and funding for all groups – the issue of harassment should take priority. In the past weeks, our Student Society has been compared to several dictatorships, as a grand hegemonic entity, and as the fearsome "status-quo" itself. The UVSS is none of these, and we should keep in mind that every student benefits from the Student Society, even if they disagree with its politics – the benefits of student advocacy campaigns, the representation of minorities, and the important student services provided within the SUB.

John Thompson

on-campus

Coast and Cordillera by John Dunn. A large-format slide/video presentation of a 2500 km kayaking, canoeing and hiking traverse of B.C. from Tofino to Fort Nelson. **Friday March 31** at 8:00 p.m. at the David Lam Auditorium, University of Victoria. Advance tickets $10 (adult) $6 (child) at Mountain Extreme and Broad Street Cameras ($12 and $7 at the door) Great door prizes! 380-9220.

Exams are coming! Are you prepared? Check out the workshops on **March 31**, 9:30-10:20 a.m. Learn what to study and how. Prepare for difficult, long exams. Avoid "going blank." Learn about multiple-choice, short answer and essay questions as well as problem-solving exams. For more information contact UVic Counselling Services at 721-8341.

The Society for Conservation Biology's is hosting a talk on **March 31** at 5:00 p.m., by the artist Robert Bateman. He will be talking about "Links between art and conservation" in HSD, room A240.

Your bicycle deserves to be safe and dry. Rent a UVic bike locker now. Students pay $5 until the end of April or $21 until the end of August. Faculty/Staff pay $8 until end of April or $28 until end of August. Key deposit required. Visit SUB Info Booth or phone 721-8355. More Info at web.uvic.ca/uvbikes.

The Circle K Club meets **every Wednesday, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.** in CLE C112. Come out and join us. Low commitment & volunteer projects. For more information contact rvcolson@uvic.ca

volunteers

True community is built from the inside out. "Community Connections" reaches out to persons who have a developmental disability, fostering friendship, community inclusion and shared fun! Consider spending a few hours each week as a mentor and friend – and find out how you can make a difference. For info call Citizen Advocacy at 598-6786.

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services

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suitemoves.com, student-run moving/delivery service from $30. "real service in a virtual world." Call 704-6683 for details.

Male & female haircuts for $10. Fully qualified, licensed home business. For appointment call 477-6740 Wed., Thurs., and Fri., 8:30 to 5:00 p.m.

announcements

Moving back to Ontario? Any spare room in your truck? Small articles need to be moved to Ontario. Will share costs. Please contact Susan at 744-1011.

Free Russian Concert: Wednesday **March 29** at the Clearihue Building, room A311 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Presented by the Victoria Balalaika Orchestra in association with UVic Slavonic Studies Department. Conductor Tony Booker will lead the orchestra in Russian favourites such as: Kalinka, Rasputin, Lara's Theme, Moscow Nights, the Volga Boatmen.

tutors

The Thinkery: Tutoring for English/humanities $20/hr. Excelling in the Arts. $18 (M.A. graduate, Wagner Fellow ('95), author). Proofreading, mentorial service, etc. Phone 595-8438 or fax 595-8401.

A – ffect Tutoring: Philosophy, English, education. $15/hour. Call Carlos 881-8784.

Professional writer (B.A.) will tutor English/ESL. Amaryllis 592-0976.

help wanted

Easy money on the Internet by reading e-mail, listening to the radio or surfing the net. E-mail ddare@home.com for free links

Band members wanted: musicians and female vocalist for theatrical band. Must have at least three years experience and be an Anime fan as well. Music style is War and Apollo Smile mixed together. Contact musician@BC1.com or 388-7360.

Painters wanted – experience an asset but not required. Vehicle an asset. Call Leanne @ 721-3070.

lost & found

Lost on Wednesday, March 22 in parking lot #2 (by Bookstore): a silver Native artwork barrette, approximately 10 cm long. Reward! **Huge sentimental value!** Call collect, Alison Rimmer in Comox – 250-339-5788.

hey you!

Jesus: Thanks for the beautiful spring day you made on the 23rd. The new buds on the trees were a really nice touch.

Fantasia: He was going to write something nice and witty and all crackwhore-esque. But it looks like he forgot. So what do we do to him? We laugh and call him the 80s fan.

Rachel: I met you on March 18 at "Liquid." You said you are from Chattam, Ontario and that you are an engineering student at UVic. I really enjoyed talking to you and I would love the chance to talk to you again. It was too bad that we got separated before we could exchange info. If you are the right Rachel, please contact me at ray9999@iname.com.

Satan: I love all the bunnies and clouds.

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students & clubs	$2/issue
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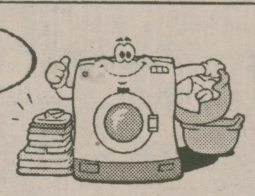

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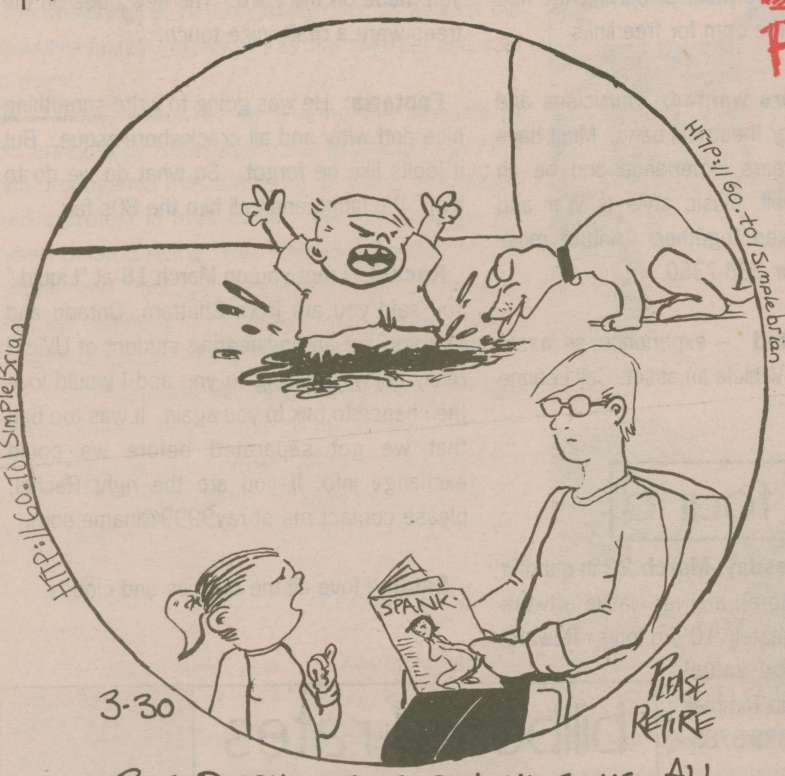

BUT DADDY, IF GOD LOVES US ALL, WHY DID HE TAKE JEFFY'S LEGS?

No Matter What Anybody tells you, always stand at the front of the Bus. If there's any kind of problem the driver is most likely to survive, due in large part to the massive lead wall situated behind him and the ejector seat everybody knows he has.

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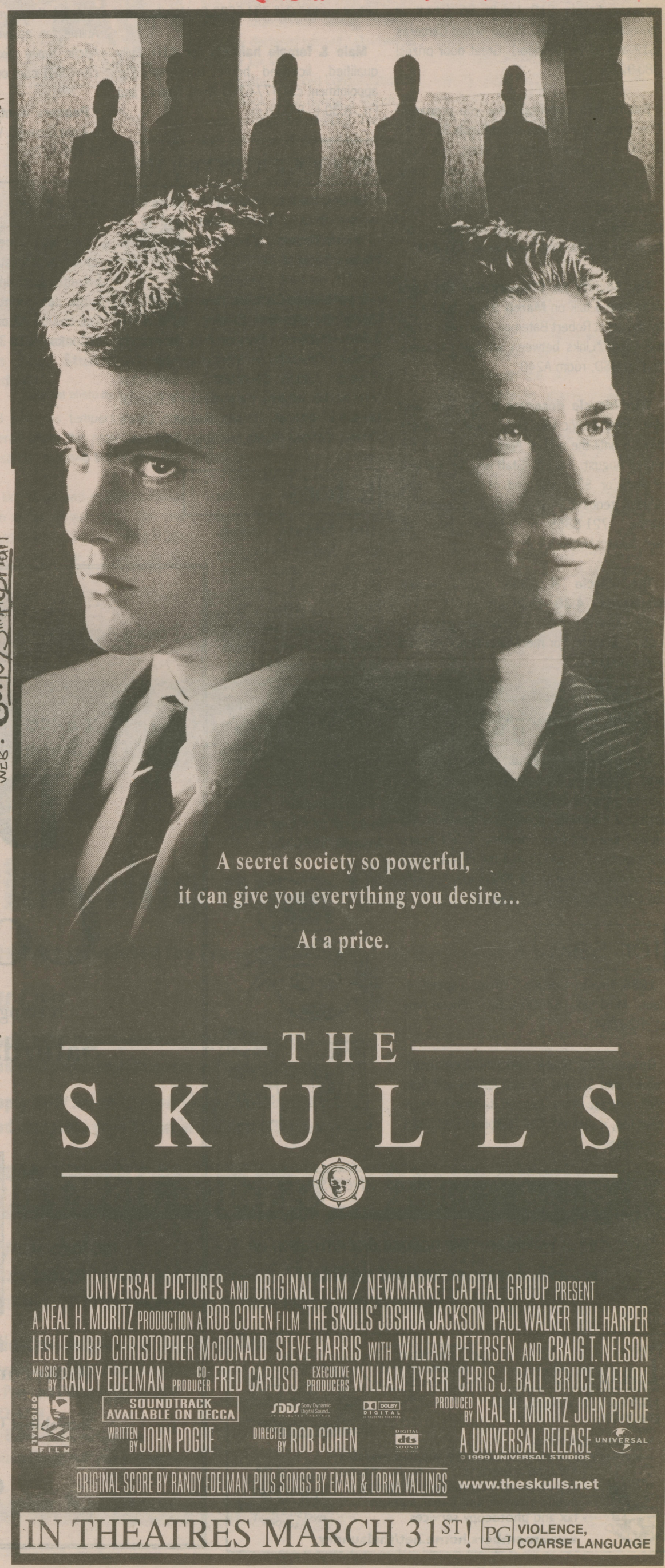
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The Essence

Environmental Studies Students' Association Spring 2000 Vol 17 No 2

News Opinions Student Initiatives Poetry Recipes

The Essence

Spring 2000 Vol 17 No 2

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Marty Krkosek & Nonie Smith

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The Essence was conceived of as a student forum on Environmental issues, and submissions are gratefully accepted. The Essence is published by the Environmental Studies Students' Association. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the School of Environmental Studies, ESSA, or the University of Victoria.

Soy Cheese From the Editors

Looking back on this past academic year, we've seen a lot of activism among Uvic and ESSA students alike. Whether it be WTO protests, environmental conferences, workshops, or awareness events, student actions and initiatives have increased the profile of several environmental issues on campus.

As the summer approaches, and we all move off to summer jobs, vacations, or more time at UVic it is important to maintain the momentum we built this year. You can stay involved at a number of levels, from international campaigns or grass-roots organizations to your own innovative initiatives. Look into your community, and find out what is happening. It from your individual efforts that progressive change originates. With this in mind we have attempted to bring you a diverse issue of the Essence.

This year's second issue of the Essence brings together stories of environmental activism, campaigns, and current events. Stories such as Monagua and the ELC present student initiatives, and the Walbran story suggests just one area where your help is needed. Also covered, are recent news events such as the landmark SLAPP suit decision, and violence against environmental protesters.

We have enjoyed bringing you the Essence this year. The stories we have presented you not only cover environmental problems, but also initiatives to solve these problems. We hope that this has the effect of motivating many of you to become more involved. Have a great summer!

Cheers, Nonie and Marty.

The UVic Environmental Law Centre

by Brendan McCombs

The UVic Environmental Law Centre (ELC) continues to innovate with a summer session of the Environmental Law Centre Clinic.

Students from across Canada will participate in this one-of-a-kind environmental advocacy program, gaining hands-on skills in public-interest advocacy, fund raising and media relations. Students will also provide legal information and engage in legal research projects for lawyers acting for community-based environmental and First Nations groups.

The addition of a summer session builds on the current ELC program running at the U-Vic Faculty of Law. Unique in Canada, the ELC is a student-run clinic providing free legal information and research in the area of public-interest environmental law.

Students in the program conduct legal research, and are responsible for the operation of the ELC as an environmental non-governmental organization (NGO). Professors and guest speakers provide instruction in the skills required to run the clinic. Students participate in activities such as fund-raising for the ELC, creating media materials, and learning client skills.

Students also get real-life experience by working with clients from the community. Students take on environmental research problems that have been brought to the ELC by environmental groups and the community. Although students are not allowed to provide legal opinions, they produce research papers that present detailed legal information about the issue. This work is supervised by practicing lawyers and law professors.

Community response to the ELC has been positive. Wally Vowels, Band Manager for the Sooke First Nation said "The research project by the ELC was excellent. We are very pleased with the work of the Centre."

The history of the ELC has always involved community outreach and public legal education. A conference was organized in 1992 by a group of University of Victoria law students to stimulate discussion on key environmental issues. From this conference, a series of annual workshops and panels developed which presented speakers such as Dr. Owens Wiwa, brother to environmental activist Ken Saro Wiwa, and Jim Fulton, Executive Director of the David Suzuki Foundation.

In 2000, the ELC continues to follow a mandate of community involvement, and of providing free legal information. To meet its public-interest mandate, the ELC has produced research reports and informational handbooks.

Unique in Canada, the ELC is a student-run clinic providing free legal information and research in the area of public-interest environmental law.

In response to increasing civil disobedience in Canadian forests the ELC produced the Civil Disobedience Handbook in 1998. The handbook was designed to inform environmental protesters about potential consequences of civil disobedience activities, and of what to expect once the legal system became involved.

Another project due out in the summer is the SLAPP Handbook, which is a guide for community groups and the public in dealing with strategic lawsuits against public participation.

For all the work that students put into the ELC, volunteers also play an important role. Volunteers give their time to organize workshops, to help with legal research, and to sit as Board members. Groups such as the Environmental Students Association and the Environmental Studies Department also work with the ELC.

"The partnership between the ELC and the Environmental Studies Students Association provides environmental students with practical knowledge in one of the most important tools for affecting changes in the law," said Pierre Iachetti, University of Victoria Liaison for the ELC.

For more information, contact the ELC at (250) 721-8188, or by email at elc@uvic.ca. Visit the ELC website at http://www.elc.uvic.ca.

M o n a g u a

by Clare Day

There is magic in a place that is discovered and ritually returned to in the company of close friends. One summer day, in 1998, I joined a friend for a day of river-hiking along the Nitnat river, north west of Cowichan Lake. That day changed my life. As the first day of our hike ended my friend and I were overwhelmed by the beauty of the area. As we set up camp alongside the river we decided to call the place Monagua, from the Spanish words for "one water."

Each time I visit Monagua I discover something new about the place, whether it be in its physical presence, or in the way I experience it. This place exists not only as a part of the Nitnat River, but also in my mind and soul as somewhere that has helped me understand what it means to be deeply rooted and connected to a place, and how that sense of place can be embodied in my everyday life.

Over the course of that summer, many of our friends visited Monagua, with the place and the stories becoming an urban legend among our circle of friends. We occasionally discussed what we would do if Monagua were ever threatened but none of us dared to say much.

However, in the fall of 1999, the discovery of logging tape on many of the trees along the river forced us to come face to face with our worst fears. Despite feelings of helplessness, disbelief, sadness and anger I knew I had to at least try to change Monagua's future.

Initially, believing that Monagua was private land, I felt powerless to affect what was taking place there. One need look no further than to Salt Spring Island to see how difficult it is for the voice of local concerns to be heard above the cry of the chainsaw on private forest land.

Before I gave up, I met with my friend Ken Wu of the Western Canada Wilderness Committee. With Ken's help, I discovered that Monagua was actually crown land, under license by TimberWest. Ken also restored my hope for changing the forest industries plans for Monagua. He saw the need to start working at a larger scale to protect riparian areas which are incredibly diverse and have largely been overlooked in BC's protected areas campaigns.

My next step was to find out what was actually planned for the area. On January 21st, I attended a TimberWest Public viewing of the maps and Forest Development Plan (FDP) for Tree Farm License (TFL) 46. I was the only one there for over an hour, when finally others started to show up.

Until then I was oblivious to the fact both Monagua and the Walbran Valley are covered under the same TFL. The Walbran Valley is currently under attack by both TimberWest and now Weyerhaeuser and is the focal point of many local environmental group's activities.

At the public viewing I had realized the value of pretending not to be a "green." I knew there would be a much better chance of getting information from them if I appeared as an innocent geography student who could "really use this map for a class." Little did they know that most of the environmentalists in that room were friends of mine who I had to ignore so as not to blow my cover.

More thn once I found it difficult not to scream as they justified forest practices which continue to clear forests as though they were senselessly using a cookie cutter in dough. The icing on the cake was being told that their wood is 'certified' by the accounting firm KPMG, whose third-party auditor is a forest-er who used to work for Canfor!

Despite the promise of a copy of the FDP and maps for Moangua, I knew the difficulty of acquiring an FDP if you are openly requesting one as a member of an environmental group. Therefore I didn't expect much. But a few weeks later I received a copy of both the Forest Development Plan and the maps for the Nitnat river (Monagua), along with a nice letter from the company wishing me luck in my studies.

After sitting down again with Ken to figure out where to go next, I was put in touch with Jill Thompson from Forest Watch. Forest Watch was created under Sierra Legal Defense and works to examine development plans and practices to ensure that they follow existing law. By understanding the plans and maps, they have been able to delay logging in some areas and greatly raise public awareness, such as the logging on Catface Mountain in Claoquot Sound.

Jill put aside an afternoon to meet with me, Ken and some others from the Sierra Club to help explain how to read the FDP and the maps. I learned that there are several apparent problems with this plan, not the least of which is that it currently proposes cutblocks greater than 40 hectares (sometimes up to 60h), which is against the law. Perhaps the most important thing I learned from Jill was about forming a strategy to deal with the problematic FDP.

I had originally planned to send as many comment sheets as possible to TimberWest, in the hope of getting the plan to more closely follow the law, however Jill had a much better idea.

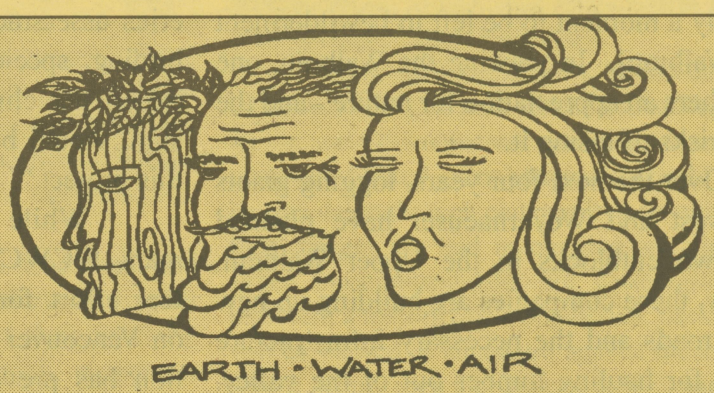
We decided to wait until the FDP gets approved and then make a formal complaint against Timber-West to both the Compliance and Enforcement Branch of the Ministry of Forests as well as to the Forest Practices Board. Although this will largely be after logging is already underway, it will buy me time to better understand the plan thus enabling me to make a stronger case, and it will show TimberWest that they are being watched.

At the very least, filing a complaint will ensure that TimberWest follows the law when they devise their future FDPs for this area. Short of chaining myself to a tree to stop logging altogether, this is all I can hope for, for their boundaries are in place and their artificial ribbons are tied to those trees.

There are no boundaries to what I call Monagua. The word does not just represent a place, but an idea. It is a vision of how we as human beings relate to the places we call home, and how we can begin taking responsibility for that which we claim to love.

While arguing for accountability and against apathy and ambivalence in high places, we must pause to realize that whatever changes we want to make in the world around us inevitably begin with ourselves. Learning what a place means to us is not to just escape to it, but to embody it and what it means to us in everything we do.

photos provided by Clare Day



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Forest Guardians Undertake Biological Research to Help Protect the Walbran

by Omar McDadi

In motion and silence, in abundance and paltry, in light and darkness, and in life and disturbance, the ancient temperate rainforests on Vancouver Island appear as a sequence of contrasts. On their own accord, they have aided in the infinite struggle to safeguard relics of what once existed.

The most recent campaign against the plight of old-growth forests is in the Upper Walbran Valley, a 5000-hectare temperate rainforest on the southwestern coast of Vancouver Island.

The Walbran has long been regarded as an ecological sanctuary. It provides critical habitat for many rare and endangered species,

Photo By: Ken Wu

including some of BC's most spectacular megafauna: black bears and cougars. The more critically threatened species include Keen's long-eared myotis (bats) and two bird species; Vaux's swift and marbled murrelets (the latter being unknown to nest in Canada until 1990 when first discovered in the Upper Walbran).

In addition, the Walbran is home to some of the largest, most biomass-rich trees on earth. The mosses that grow on Sitka spruce are thick and rich, and glimmer throughout the woodlands. The grandeur of a Western Red Cedar is marked with nobility and splendor [it takes only a moment to be left in bewilderment of the Walbran]. In viewing the Walbran, one also furthers an appreciation for nature - and the somber risks of losing it.

Over the next four years, logging giants Timberwest and Weyerhaeuser have planned twenty-two cutblocks in the Upper Walbran. Presently, these companies are building up new logging roads and the necessary infrastructure required for hauling lumber out of the valley. Contrary to what many believe, large-scale industrial logging still exists and is the single greatest reason for the decline in temperate rainforest abundance. As a consequence, there is no time to waste with the standard "talk and log" politics with which British Columbians have become fatigued.

The present dilemma of linking scientific truths with public policy is one that will require innovative ideas that further the will of conservation, with hopes of influencing a new paradigm. For example, less than 0.2% of the earth was originally covered in temperate rainforest. Now, however, well over half of these forests have been inundated with some form of industrial logging. British Columbia has fully one quarter of the worlds remaining temperate rainforest, yet surprisingly protects only 5.8% of the land base. Taking these matters into consideration, the Western Canada Wilderness Committee (WCWC) is planning a full-blown ecological inventory entitled the Forest Guardians Research Project, whose goal is to ascertain the true biological importance of the Walbran Valley.

Commencing in early summer, Forest Guardians will initially be sending volunteers to 'hot spot' areas that have been approved for industrial logging, and may be the first to vanish. While on site, volunteers will be collecting data pertaining to the ecological characteristics of the forest. Some of the activities will include identifying tree and plant species; taking core samples and clinometre measurements; searching for birds nests; assessing species diversity; conducting fish and stream surveys; and sampling for new species in the suspended soil layer in the forest canopies.

Ken Wu, a campaign coordinator with WCWC's Victoria office, would like to see a committed volunteer base established. This will encourage people to connect with the forest, and ensure that public information is provided. "We would like to get as many students from UVic, who are involved in the life sciences to come out and assist us in this project," says Wu. "Anyone who is conducive to fisheries assessments, stream surveys, birding, species identification, has experience climbing, or any related skill, would be an excellent fit for this project."

While Forest Guardians mark WCWC's first major volunteer effort for ecological research on Vancouver Island, the organization has previously built research facilities for scientists in similarly threatened ecosystems such as the Carmanah Valley, a swathe of old growth forest adjacent to the Walbran. This led to the renowned research conducted in the 1990's by UVic entomologists Dr. Neville Winchester and Dr. Richard Ring.

In the first study of its kind in North America, climbers ascended hundreds of metres into the forest canopy where they discovered three hundred species (all arthropods) previously unknown to science. The study also revealed that even after one hundred and twenty years, second growth forests had yet to mimic the structural complexities of old-growth forest canopies and thus could not sustain the species that would normally inhabit the region. Additionally, many of these species exhibited habitat specifications that confined their distribution to old-growth canopies in specific biogeoclimatic zones. These discoveries vociferously aided the triumphant campaign to protect Carmanah from further logging disturbances.

With the Forest Guardians project, an opportunity will be provided for positive action towards the protection of one of the last stands of old-growth temperate rainforest on southwestern Vancouver Island (87% has been cut). Given the finality of extinction, I deeply encourage those who will be on Vancouver Island this summer to get involved with the project, or at least visit the Upper Walbran and offer support to those who made the trek.

For more information, contact the Western Canada Wilderness Committee's Victoria office at (250) 388-9292, or by email at wc2vic@island.net

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Anti-Environmentalism: A Violent Backlash

By Nonie Smith

Imagine living in a country where free speech, public protest and even political debate are not tolerated and are punishable by harassment, imprisonment, torture and even death. For many environmentalists world-wide these chances are often taken, but did you know that as an environmentalist in British Columbia you could be taking these same risks?

Recently, on the night of March 13, 2000, an alleged attack on three people protesting on Saltspring Island took place. A woman inside her tent, was dragged across the road to the edge of a cliff, a man sitting in a tree platform had his suspension rope cut causing his platform to plummet leaving him hanging on to the branches, and a third man's arm was injured, when his attackers pulled on his arm that was locked to a log loader. These activists were protesting recent logging activities on Western Saltspring Island. Their alleged attackers are employees of Dorman Logging, a contractor of Texada Logging who vehemently deny any part in the attack. In the March 16 issue of Monday magazine the company's foreman further denied the allegations and claimed that 'its is nothing but a bunch of fabricated lies' created by the environmentalists. The RCMP now claim to be investigating and may lay charges, but this only comes after members of the Western Canada Wildernss Committee (WCWC) expressed concern over the incident.

On September 15, 1999, Approximately 100 Interfor employees, contractors, and associates allegedly attacked a camp of eight environmentalists in the Elaho Valley, resulting in three people being hospitalized. Environmentalists, protesting logging in the Stoltmann Wilderness were beaten, kicked in the face and kidneys, and threatened with sexual assault. All camping gear and video equipment was destroyed and burned in a bonfire by the loggers. The Crown is currently pressing charges against five Squamish residents for assault, mischief to property, and uttering a threat. Assault victims are launching a further lawsuit against Interfor and numerous assailants who are not being charged by the Crown.

These attacks are not isolated random acts of violence, but are rather connected to a much larger and wider environmental backlash that has been growing steadily over the past thirty years. In fact, these are just two incidents in a long string of clashes between environmentalists and the environmental backlash movement.

The earliest signs of this movement in North America date back to the 1970s, when industry initiated public interest law firms in the United States. Despite the front of acting for public interest, the main purpose of these firms was to act as a venue for industry to fight against fundamental legal reforms on environmental issues (e.g. Endangered Species Act of 1973) from entering the American Statute books.

By the 1980s, large anti-environmental groups such as SHARE B.C. (The Citizens' Coalition for Sustainable Development), and Northcare were established in Canada. These groups mirrored the 'Wise Use' movement in the United States; sponsored by industry, they have established extensive public relations campaigns presenting environmentalists as 'long-haired, dope-smoking, terrorists', 'eco-freaks', and 'elitist snobs'. In turn these pro-business groups present themselves as environmentally and socially conscious organizations.

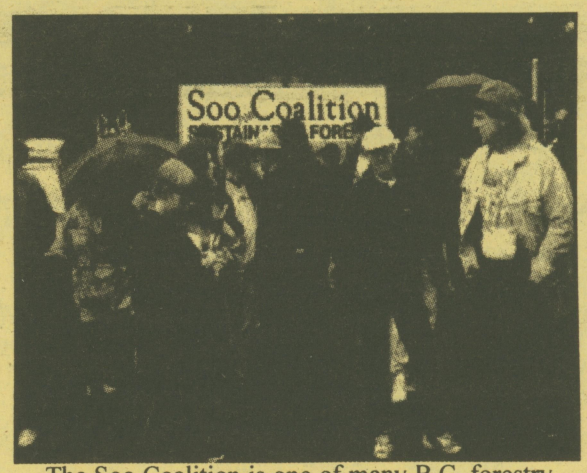
Today, there exists several anti-environmental groups in B.C., most notably the various SHARE chapters in rural towns where workers logging the Walbran Valley live (e.g. Cowichan Lake, Port Alberni). Other similar groups include the Soo Coalition in Squamish and Pemberton, and Voices for the Valley in Bella Coola, both responsible for organizing Interfor workers for anti-environmental initiatives. Many of these groups were established by the Forest Alliance, which was set up in 1991 by Burson-Marstellar, the PR firm also responsible for repairing the public image of Exxon after the Valdez oil spill and Union Carbide after the explosion in Bhopal India. The Forest Alliance's greenwashing campaign aims to confuse the public into thinking forest companies are working towards positive environmental change.

Photo by Rick O'Neil

One of the few surviving photographs of the Elaho Valley incident.

These anti-environmental groups are extremely organized and influential. Andrew Rowell author of *Green Backlash* notes links between the anti-environmental movement the political right, as well as the far right and the militia in the United States. Rowell also writes that "commentators on the Right are actively making scapegoats of the environmental movement and polarizing the environmental debate, away from solution into direct confrontation. The logical extension of such vitriolic rhetoric is violence, which is on the increase."

The SHARE groups, Soo Coalition, and Voices for the Valley are corporate efforts to organize forest industry workers to "protect their jobs" by fighting environmentalists and park proposals, whereas most logging jobs are lost due to mechanization and overcutting. "These groups create a climate of hate and fear that is conducive to violence against environmentalists" says Ken Wu of WCWC. "Wu continues by saying that their 'anti-environmental violence is designed to intimidate the public from speaking up and engaging in high profile protests to pressure governments to restrict the activities of corporations."



The Soo Coalition is one of many B.C. forestry industry supported organizations

B.C. first witnessed anti-environmental violence in 1986. A member of the Valhalla Society was assaulted and their office vandalized, a consequence of their position on the controversial debate over logging on South Moresby Island, in the Queen Charlotte Islands. Since then, several violent incidents have occurred, and in none of the cases – with exception of the Elaho Valley incident – were any assailants charged for assault by the RCMP.

The WCWC reports that the RCMP have consistently responded very slowly and reluctantly to emergency calls by activists. This mimics the situation in the United States where the FBI and State Police response to environmentalist's requests for help are slow, if they respond at all. Moreover, in several of the United State's cases, victims find that they have become the target of police investigations instead of their attackers. David Helvarg, author *of The War Against the Greens*, explains that these circumstances are the result of the influence of corporate power within our society. Today, Rowell states, that environmentalists are increasingly being identified as a "global scapegoat for threatening unrestricted corporate capitalism, right-winged political ideology, and the nation's state protection of the *status quo*".

Can environmentalists and grass-roots movements fight against these powerful institutions? Ultimately, to stifle the anti-environmental movement, and to actually be able to protect the environment, environmentalists must avoid being marginalized and polarized by the green backlash. Vandana Shiva, a leading environmentalist from India, advocates that the environmental movement collaborate with workers, women, social justice organizations, First Nations and other non-traditional alliances, to address social, cultural and development issues, thus creating large citizen's alliances.

Shiva believes that by 'broad-basing' environmental efforts it will make it increasingly difficult for the anti-environmental movement to succeed. The corporate-backed green antagonists could potentially be shut down through community pressure and therefore charges are laid in ongoing and future cases. When environmentalists are de-marginalized and represent a majority of a population, backlash efforts will be viewed as an assault against the average person. It is only then that attacks in B.C. against "environmental protesters" can also be seen as an attack against the average Canadian citizen.

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SLAPP suits: Attempts at Stifling Democracy

by Brendan McCombs and Bram Rogachevsky

SLAPPs are an issue of great concern for environmental groups. While the presence of SLAPPs in Canada may be traced back for almost a decade, the adverse affects of these actions on the democratic process has gone relatively unnoticed.

Recently, the proliferation of SLAPPs has raised public awareness of the issue, and in the spring of 1999, a Canadian court formally recognized the phenomenon. Law and policy makers have finally expressed intent to do the same.

SLAPP is an acronym for Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation, and are typically filed by large, powerful organizations when activities of public groups have interfered with their economic interests.

Advanced with the intent of stifling participation in public policy and decision-making, SLAPPs have a detrimental impact on the democratic process. The aim of a SLAPP suit is not to win, but to deter opposition and cause the defendant, who typically lacks resources and legal expertise, to become silent on the environmental issue.

In response to the growing threat of SLAPP suits on the environmental community, the ELC is publishing the SLAPP Handbook. Available this summer, the SLAPP Handbook is designed to aid community groups and individuals in dealing with these suits.

The Handbook explains the nature of SLAPPs, and covers the steps to be taken in response to a potential SLAPP suit.

The Handbook also presents suggestions for legal reform and education on the chilling effect of SLAPP suits on public participation. As Attorney-General of British Columbia, Ujjal Dosanjh made a commitment that if elected, he would facilitate the entrenchment of a Public Participation Act. If made law, this Act would offer protection to targets of SLAPPs.

"An Act addressing the SLAPP problem would focus on a right to public participation, one of the most vital elements of a democracy," commented Rodney Wilts and Oliver Brandes, two of the handbook's co-authors.

The turning point for SLAPPs in British Columbia came in 1999 when a small group of Saanich residents opposed a development proposal in the Cedar Hill area by Fraser et al v. Corp. After the municipal council blocked the development, the developer sued eight of the residents involved in petitioning the council. Justice Singh reprimanded Fraser for attempting to "stifle the democratic activities of the defendants," and took the unprecedented step of labeling the action a SLAPP.

Forestry giant MacMillan Bloedel Ltd's 1992 action against a citizens group, Galiano Conservancy Association, was the first major Canadian manifestation of the SLAPP phenomenon. Although MacMillian Bloedel alleged that the Conservancy had conspired unlawfully to manipulate MacMillian Bloedel development of the island, no evidence was present to prove that claim. Eventually, the allegations were dismissed.

Similar obstacles confronted the Friends of the Lubicon in 1991 when they attempted to initiate a boycott of Daishowa Inc. paper products. The Friends hoped that this would persuade Daishowa to commit to a moratorium on logging an area in Alberta claimed by the Lubicon Cree Nation. Instead, Daishowa mounted a lawsuit seeking an injunction to restrain any boycott activities by the Friends of the Lubicon. Four years after the lawsuit was launched, Justice MacPherson of the Ontario Court of Justice denied Daishowa's application for an injunction.

"Public awareness and involvement is critical in ensuring that the dangers of SLAPP are effectively combated. The ELC wants to help the public and grassroots organizations educate themselves against this growing legal problem" said SLAPP Handbook co-author and ELC President Bram Rogachevsky.

SLAPPs have had a longer history in the United States, resulting in 13 states passing Anti-SLAPP legislation. "Hopefully, the public can become better informed about how SLAPPs interfere with the democratic process, and how legal reforms such as those in the U.S., can be implemented in Canada" Rogachevsky said. "The SLAPP Handbook is one tool towards this goal."

The Canadian Seal Hunt: Should it Continue?

by Liz Turner

The Canadian seal hunt, set on the Newfoundland coast, is the world's largest hunt of marine mammals.

The seal hunt has long played a vital role in Newfoundland's economy and culture. By the mid-eighteenth century European demand for oil and skins had expanded the commercial seal fishery. At the beginning of the nineteenth century a record kill of 200,000 seals was set, however, this record increased to 33 million seals, primarily newborns by the end of the century. Sealing was second only to the cod fishery in economic importance.

The seal industry continued to grow throughout the early twentieth century. This growth ended with the fifty percent decline of the seal population between 1950 and 1970.

copyright Fred Bruemmer

In 1983, the European community, which had been importing close to seventy-five percent of Canadian seal pelts, banned products derived from whitecoats (newborn harp seals) leading to a collapse in the seal skin market. This and international pressure from animal rights activists caused the Canadian government to place a moratorium on the commercial hunt for whitecoats in 1987. However, hunting for older seals continued.

Canadian seals received a second blow, when in 1995 the government introduced subsidies for seal meat products. This was an attempt to help the Newfoundland economy, which was suffering due to the moratorium on the cod fishery. However, according to a study by Dr. Clive Southey, a natural resource economist this hunt makes up only a fraction of one percent of Newfoundland's gross domestic product and represents only a small number of jobs on a part-time basis for a few weeks a year.

Moreover, there is now next to no market for any seal part, the flesh is unpalatable and the skins are not in demand. Currently, some revenue comes from seal oil & seal penises as aphrodisiacs in some parts of Asia.

Additional support for the seal hunt, comes from people believing the seal population is responsible for impeding the recovery of the cod fishery; it is argued that the seals are responsible for eating all the cod fish. However, there is no scientific evidence that seals cause cod-stocks to decline, an opinion now shared by both the International Scientific community and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). Basically, the seals are dying as a scapegoat for the collapse of the cod fishery which was destroyed by overfishing

The seal quota for 2000 is set at 275,000, yet this number is likely to be surpassed based on past records as the annual allowable limit is usually exceeded by two or three times. Evidence has recently revealed that as many as half a million seals have been killed in each of the last three years, an average of two to three times beyond the allowable limit. Besides breaking the law these large kills are putting the seal population at risk and threatening its long term stability.

Photo From: C.A.T.C.H. 1999

Violations and abuse contribute to this hunt's widespread cruelty. Video evidence from 1996 showed that some seals were skinned alive and many others were either wounded by gunfire, caught on sharpened steel hooks or clubbed to death with illegal weapons. Government internal reports also show that approximately eight out of ten seals are just days or weeks old, they can only be killed legally at an age of 12 days.

The seal hunt is not economically viable, environmentally sustainable, and poses serious animal welfare questions. For further information on thiscampaign email: catcsh_victoria@hotmail.com.

It is reported that a majority of Canadians (85%) are against the commercial seal hunt. Therefore the government should be held accountable to their electorate. If you also agree please write to your MP and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans:The Hon. Herb Dhaliwal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans 15th Floor, 200 Kent Street Ottawa, Ontario. K1A 0E6.

PAVE OVER PARADISE & CALL IT "SILVER SPRAY"

by: Spencer Brown and Jamie Farkvam

On June 8, 1998 Michael Thornton, President of Home Equity Development Inc. and Silver Spray Investments Inc. submitted a rezoning application for 164 acres adjacent to East Sooke park.

Home Equity Development Inc. has applied to change this area to a residential and commercial designation area. The development plans include 127 single family units and an eco' lodge with 84 rooms, a restaurant, 15 cottages, a full size Base-ball park, golf course and marina along with associated parking lots for each facility.

The development would disrupt the ecological continuity connecting the park to adjacent lands - essential for larger mammals. Threatened endemic ecosystems such as Gary Oak woodlands would be disturbed or distroyed. Other critical habitats threatenedinclude: wetlands, riparian zones, coastal bluffs, and coastal intertidal zones. The impacts would extend to the wide range of species dependant on these habitats: waterfowl, songbirds, raptors, amphibians, reptiles, mammals. Distur-bance would also extend into the park and the Sooke Harbour Basin through increased human activity.

The Capital Regional District (CRD), has not yet accepted the rezoning application and have tabled it until an Environmental Impact Assessment has been completed addressing effects on East Sooke Park. Some Victoria residents are demanding that the public be consulted and considered an interest group because "we visit East Sooke and its parks too!"

Thornton's rezoning proposal calls for a change of the current East-Sooke community development plan. The proposal's economic motivations suggest that it will boost the local economy. Thornton has suggested that the value of construction during build out, in current dollars, is estimated to be in the range of $50 million. Furthermore, full and part-time employment at the Eco-Tourism Destination Lodge is estimate at 150 positions.

There has been extreme debate on this issue and the project has divided the community over economic interests and land conservation issues.

The East Sooke Advisory Commision was established by community members to debate the Silver Spray issue. Unfortunately, thirty Strategic Law suits Against Public Participation or SLAPP suites have now been imposed by Michael Thornton on several members of this commission.

These lawsuites were filed against candidates running for the recent past APC election who spoke out against Silver Spray. The SLAPP suites were held over the head of the APC candidates during the election and ultimately resulted in the election of 5 new pro-development APC members.

Alan Crow, on behalf of the East Sooke Residents Association , has voiced his concerns about the scale and intensity of this project. The Sierra club proposes an alternative in extending East Sooke Park to include the area. As a recreation area it would serve the community as a whole better than a commercial and residential development functional for an exclusive wealthy few.

The long term results of the Silver Spray development are higher taxes to members of community, environmental habitat & species degradation and accelerated human visits and maintenance costs to the East Sooke Park.

The broader issues incompassing the Silver Spray proposal are an increased world-wide demand for urbanization and development in ecologically sensitive areas. As our population increase more ecological important areas will be put at risk. It is up to us, the public, to ensure that future developments find balance between social, economic and environmental concerns.

to the restoration of a land

when wordsfail my humanity
I have no way, I have no means
breathless, in motion
completely at rest within a breeze
what She, my earth, has provided
was my meekest need

in a brilliant dayglow..
out of a serene mist
i saw you climb the rocky shore
i saw you open your wrists
Her life-blood flowed sweet and tender
spilling, running, over-filling
into the ocean
smoothly blanketing the rocks
i watched you gather your faith
and put it in a box
the size of my hands
saying my faither is in my footprint
and my foot print in the land

for what Her waters had
blessed you with
you passed to me
this sacred gift
the healing of a heart
the ability to softly bleed
to the restoration of a land
i will march softly
...carefully
for Her life...
for Her need

-Faith Whiting

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Tel: 250 642 0242

Recipes

Recipes by: Danielle Deutscher

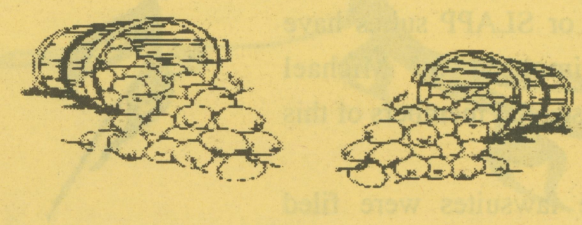
Mixed Bean and Basil Salad

2 cups cooked kidney beans
2 cups cooked chick peas
1 cup each yellow and green cooked beans
1 medium green pepper (thinly sliced)
1 medium red onion (thinly sliced)
1/2 cup white wine nivager
1/2 cup olive oil
1/8 cup brown sugar
2 tablespoons fresh basil (2 teaspoons dry)
1 teaspoon ground mustard powder
1/2 - 1 teaspoon salt

Mix it all up and chill overnight. 10-12 servings.

Bulger Wild Rice Casserole

1/4 cup olive oil
1 cup bulger
1 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup chopped onion
3 cups vegetable broth
1 1/2 cup cooked wild rice
1/2 cup snipped fresh parsley
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon fresh basil (1 teaspoon dry)
2 teaspoon fresh Thyme (1./2 teaspoon dry)
2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
1 cup toasted walnuts



Pre-heat oven to 350°. Saute bulger in olive oil for 2 minutes, then stir in the celery and onion and saute for 3 more minutes. Add vegetable broth, rice, and parsley, bring to a boil, and then simmer for 90 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients, put into a 2 quart saucepan and bake uncovered for 30 minutes or until all the liquid is absorbed.

Makes 8 - 10 servings.

Vegan Ginger Cookies

2/3 cup vegetable oil
1 cup dark brown sugar
1/4 cup molasses
3/4 cup chick pea flour
(can substitute wheat flour)
1 cup kamut flour
1 tablespoon ground ginger
1 tablespoon fresh grated ginger
1 teaspoon cinnamon
3 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt

Pre-heat oven to 375°. Mix all ingredients. Roll 1 tablespoon for each cookie in fine sugar and press onto lightly greased pan. Bake at 375° for 12 minutes
Makes 20 BIG cookies!

To be here...
and dancing, arms outstreched
to play with pieces of sky,
a part of you and an part of my eyes
entangled in a circle i am shaped oval, shaped bent,
shaped fit to your hands...
smooth, dark, hard and full is my heart
my core, deep, encloses my sacred art, my fight

i am here..
i am living
to pursue my life

To the beat of daybreak,
to the ku-lumb of a drum
slowly and breathlessly rises
a common sun
my feet begin to move as though I was young
rushing warmly, my sap begins to run
among beautiful diversity
life is never alone
we are each, corners of an earth
we are all a part of a rebirth
and a death, and love, and not to forget life...
sweet, precious life

...oh but the light, it fades
colours of a sunset are put away..
yellow, orange to purple and grey
you have the ability to steal the day

to the beat of daybreak
to the ku-lumb of a drum
my limbs break heavy
my body taken violently from my own.
for your pride, your self alone
at your conquering hands
my life has fallen ruthlessly
a circle has become undone

-Faith Whiting

Amaranth

Food For Thought
Your On Campus Environmentally Friendly Food Co-op. Located in SUB B132

We are a student-run food-buying collective which provides students (and the public) with the opportuntiy to buy locally grown or distributed organic food at wholesale prices. Our store shelves are stocked with food and if you can't find what you need, you can check our catalogue and we can order it in. Some of the items that we carry:

- Bulk organic grains, seeds, and cooking supplies
- Organic cereal and granola
- Soy and rice milk
- Dried and frozen organic fruits and vegetables
- Herbal tinctures
- Fresh-baked organic breads
- Environmentally-friendly cleaning products
- Natural hygiene products

These are only a few of the many things that we carry at Amaranth. We also have a library of literature on food and food-related issues which can be signed-out. Come in and see what you've been missing. We are located in the SUB building across from the Cinecenta box office. Ph. 471-4386.